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Comment Of The Day

A ZOO FOR HONGKONG?

URBAN Councillors want a zoo for Hongkong. Judging by the crowds which gather around the few cages in the Botanical Gardens around feeding time their proposal would be well supported. And attendance figures at the new zoo which has opened in Laichikok must be an encouraging factor in the move to establish something bigger and more permanent in Hongkong. But this proposal needs to be carefully considered before Government commits itself.

The greatest limitation is Hongkong's climate which restricts the variety of animals we could import. Tropical countries could certainly provide a colourful selection, but again there is the difficulty of breeding certain wild animals in captivity. And quite apart from the restrictions which climate, feeding and breeding impose, Hongkong is hardly a big enough place to support an elaborate and costly zoo of the calibre of Colombo's for example.

Don't Need Two

AGAIN, if the Laichikok project succeeds as it gives every promise of doing, we do not need a second. There is something to be said for centralising all the animals in captivity in various parts of the Colony. Thus the Botanical Garden bears, porcupines, monkeys, fox and birds, and the animals at the PG farm and the small Army "zoo" at Lyemian could be put in the 50 or so exhibits at Laichikok to provide a nucleus for something more substantial.

If this is what the Urban Councillors have in mind the idea is sound and worth pursuing. But let private enterprise do the job. There is no need for Government to do more than surrender its animals when it is convinced that there are local promoters who can handle the job. It could also help arrange a site. The best suggestion is Aberdeen.

An Aquarium

A even better idea than the aquarium, however, is an aquarium. Here Hongkong would have no difficulty getting exhibits of all shapes, sizes and colours. For in our seas about an amazing variety of marine life which would make a splendid display in any aquarium. Here there would be no breeding or feeding problems. Furthermore they would all be in their natural environment. Local fishermen would give us exhibits free and we could get almost anything from a sprat to a shark. Hongkong has even been visited by a whale!

If public funds are going to be spent on any project, a far better investment would be an aquarium. Let the Urban Councillors think about this before they bring up the subject of a zoo again. There are Hongkong people with imaginative plans for an aquarium that could, with the terrific variety of fish in our seas, turn out to be one of the most outstanding in the world.

RUSSIAN ROCKET TRAVELED MORE THAN 8 m MILES THROUGH SPACE MAN-MADE PLANET IN ORBIT

Now A Satellite Of The Sun

MOSCOW, Jan. 7. Russia said tonight its cosmic rocket has gone into orbit around the sun after travelling more than eight-and-a-half million miles through space. An official Tass announcement said: "The first artificial planet of the solar system emerged in its orbit today." It said the rocket was now nearly 620,000 miles from earth and had travelled 8,690,000 miles through space.

Travelling Away

Its distance from earth "will increase at a terrific pace since the earth and the artificial planet are travelling away from each other," Tass said. The artificial planet will be much nearer to Mars than the earth because of its velocity at the launching, which was well over the second cosmic velocity. On January 14, the planet will reach its perihelion (the nearest point to the sun). It will then be about 90,710,000 miles from the sun and will travel with its maximum speed of 19.8 miles per second. On its way towards its aphelion (the farthest point from the sun) the planet's speed will decrease to about 17 miles per second, the Agency said.—UPI and Reuter.

SOVIET PLANS TO SEND MANNED ROCKET TO VENUS & MARS THIS YEAR

CAPETOWN, Jan. 8. Top Soviet scientist Anatoly Blagonravov said in an interview published here today that the USSR plans to send a manned rocket to Venus and Mars and possibly the moon next September.

According to the interview, carried by the Capetown weekly Afrikaans newspaper The Landstem, Blagonravov said in a telephone statement from Moscow: "It is no secret that the nation which controls space also has control over the earth. Within a year, we will be in a position to destroy any city in the world, but we sincerely hope that such a possibility will never occur."

Preparing

The scientist said, "There is no more need for us to carry out tests and experiments. We have done all that is necessary and are now preparing to land a rocket on Venus in June."

The scientist said that the USSR has already chosen Ivan Ilyinsky, 30, a bachelor, as the man to make the journey into space.

Ilyinsky, he said, had been undergoing extensive training, including tests such as remaining under water up to four minutes to strengthen his lungs, and being kept in an airless room for up to two and a half hours.

Man-Made Planet

Blagonravov said Ilyinsky would travel in an exact copy of the man-made planet which has now passed the moon. The man will have control over the planet and will be supplied with water and food in tablet form. He will send coded messages back to earth if anything goes wrong and he is unable to return.

The scientist said Ilyinsky is being specially tutored to bring the planet back, but there is also an automatic apparatus which will come into operation should anything happen to make him unconscious.

Equipment linked with his heart and lungs will give us exact information as to the causes should he fall unconscious, or lose his life. Our idea is to establish a new Russia on the planets Venus and Mars. If it is possible to establish life on the moon, we want to send a selected scientist to the moon and back about the end of the year."

Blagonravov said, "In June we are going to try to land a planet on Mars and we expect it to be successful. If we achieve the expected success in this venture, we will land men on Venus and Mars in September."—France-Press.

U.S. TO LAUNCH RETRIEVEABLE SATELLITE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7. The United States will try for the first time in coming days to return part of an artificial satellite to earth after launching it in a polar orbit, Defence Department missile men reported today.

The satellite will weigh 1,300 pounds and carry a recoverable capsule containing measuring instruments and possibly an animal, they said.

It reportedly will be launched in the next few days at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California with the aid of a Thor medium range ballistic missile, combined with a smaller Bell Hustler missile.—France-Press.

Chicago Fire Verdict

CHICAGO, Jan. 7. The cause of the fire which took the lives of 90 children and three nuns at a Catholic school here last December 1 remains undetermined, a coroner's jury reported today.

The specialist jury said the fire started under the stairs and had been burning for some time before being reported.—Reuter.

The dispute has arisen over the grave of van driver George Dennis, who died in August 1957, aged 60.

George was a lover of birds and animals and his sister decided that a birdbath would be a fitting memorial on his grave.

The Church Council had no objection, but the Rector, the

Fong Yim-Fun Says 'I Do' As She Clutches Hot Water Bottle



DR RAYMOND YANG

LONDON, Jan. 7. The famous 30-year-old Hongkong Cantonese opera star, Fong Yim-fun, was married here today to Dr Raymond King-wong Yang, as she clutched a hot water bottle.

Miss Feng, whose real name is Leung Yin-fong, was trying to keep out the chill of the English winter as she said "I do" to her 40-year-old prominent Hongkong physician at London's Caxton Hall. The temperature at the time was only just above freezing point.

Rumours of their impending marriage had been circulating in Hongkong for months. But both parties who flew to London separately before Christmas had been non-committal when approached in Hongkong.

Their trip to England was because they had hoped for a quiet wedding away from the bride's home, but now that they have got married, "the beautiful flower" will do one, attracted many Western admirers of Oriental beauty to London's Caxton Hall for the ceremony.

It is learnt that the couple will spend their honeymoon in Europe before returning to Hongkong.—All Agencies.



FONG YIM-FUN

TWO-TON MARBLE OSCAR FOR MIKE TODD'S GRAVE

CHICAGO, Jan. 7. The brother of film producer Mike Todd, who was killed in a plane crash in New Mexico last March, said today he planned to erect a two-tonne marble replica of a Hollywood Oscar award over his dead brother's grave.

BATISTA LOOT SEIZED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7. The U.S. Government has impounded \$1 million in cash brought into the United States by a fleeing supporter of former Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista, informed sources said today.

These sources said the money was taken to Key West, Florida, by Cuban Sen. Rolando Masferrer in his private yacht about 12 hours after the fall of the Batista Government on New Year's day.

They said the U.S. Government seized the funds pending investigation to determine the exact legal status of the money.—UPI.

Mr Goldbogen said the marble reproduction he planned as a memorial to his brother would stand about nine feet high and would cost him \$8,000. It would bear no epitaph.

"We would want to keep the memorial simple," he said.

Todd is buried in Waukegan Cemetery in a Chicago suburb.—Reuter.

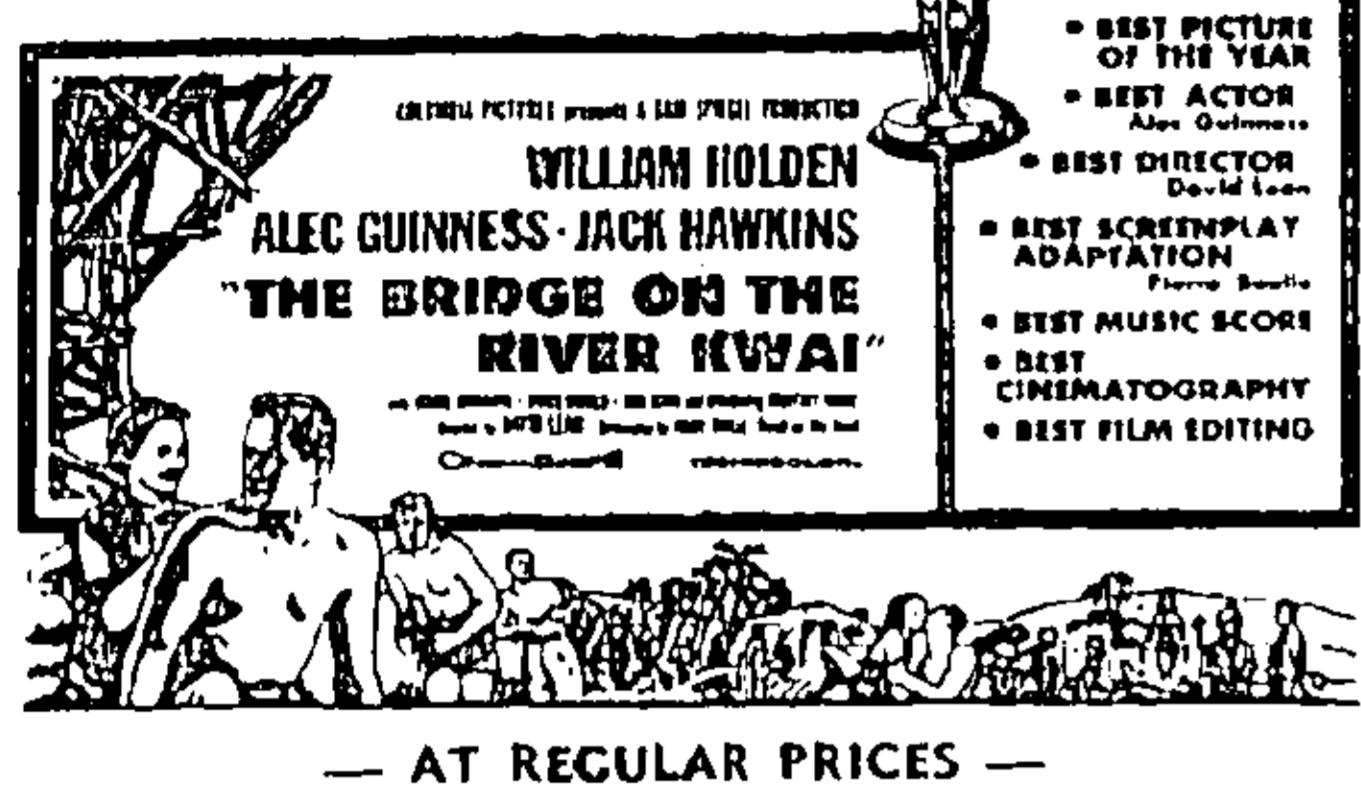
MOTHER SCARED OF GOING HOME

MIKE TODD'S GRAVE

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At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

THRILLING, FASCINATING AND INTERESTING

With English Narration

To-morrow Morning Show

"THEY CAN'T HANG ME"

A Coloured Bobby? NEGRO SETS THE POLICE A PROBLEM

Leeds, Jan. 7. Richard Clarke, who had hoped to become Britain's first negro policeman, said today his application has been delayed and possibly rejected because of his race. The 25-year-old native of Trinidad, who is married to a white woman and has three children, has been drafted. He will have to report for Army duty unless he can get quick action on the job application he filed with the Leeds Police Department a month ago.

PACIFIST WON'T KEEP THE PEACE 'Ironic, Isn't It' He Says

London, Jan. 7. A pacifist clergyman was waiting patiently today with other pacifists to be taken off to gaol for refusing to sign a pledge "to keep the peace." It's rather ironic to be accused of disturbing the peace when our whole object is to work for peace," remarked the Rev. Michael Scott, while waiting in his office for police to arrest him.

The Rev. Scott is one of the 47 pacifists who defied police at a demonstration against the construction of a Thor missile base on December 20.

A local court gave the defiant pacifists the choice of serving a two-week prison term or signing a pledge to keep the peace for 12 months.—U.P.I.

A spokesman for the walkout group told the conference of the national union of Australian university students that the union's constitution did "not allow such a political matter to be discussed."

He added that all the students represented by the nine delegates would "disassociate themselves from any motion" on peace.

Following the walk-out a motion that the "modification of Australia's immigration policy would help dissipate prejudice" was defeated by five votes to two.—Reuter.

STUDENTS REFUSE COLOUR DEBATE

Melbourne, Jan. 7. Nine delegates representing 18,000 university students in Queensland and New South Wales tonight walked out of a nation-wide students conference here after refusing to debate the "White Australia" policy.

A spokesman for the walkout group told the conference of the national union of Australian university students that the union's constitution did "not allow such a political matter to be discussed."

He added that all the students represented by the nine delegates would "disassociate themselves from any motion" on peace.

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DANNY IN NEW FILM

Paris, Jan. 7. American film comedian, Danny Kaye, said today that he will play the lead in "Bachelor Kid," which is to be produced in Japan, beginning in February, by Mel Frank.

The story deals with the adventures of an actor who goes to Japan to play a role in a film.—France-Press.

GERMAN PLANES NOW IN NATO

Bonn, Jan. 7. The West German Government has turned over two squadrons of fighter-bombers and one squadron of transport planes to NATO, the Defence Ministry announced today.

The fighter-bomber squadrons consist of American "F-84" planes and the transport squadron of 18 French "Noratlas" planes.—France-Press.

X-15's Pilot Will Make Space Bid In June

Karachi, Jan. 7. The American X-16, a rocket-powered research aircraft, would make its first attempt to break into space in June, Air Marshal Sir Richard Atcherley, Commander-in-Chief of the RAF training command, said this today.

Speaking to students of the Air Force Training College, he said a team of U.S. pilots would attempt to break into space, circumnavigate the globe, and re-enter the earth's atmosphere.

He added: "I have no doubt that sooner or later they (the Americans) will succeed in this task, ambitious as it may seem to us."

(Earlier this year at the RAF college at Cranwell, he said such a flight would make the so-called ultimate weapon, the ballistic missile, as "un-ultimate and dated as all its predecessors".)

The Air Marshal, who has been in Karachi for the opening of the Air College, was speaking

What Will The Palace Announce?

Teheran, Jan. 7. Important news from the Shah's Palace can be expected shortly, according to usually well-informed sources.

rumours have circulated that the Shah might marry Princess Margaret of Savoy, sister of Prince Umberto Emmanuel of Italy, recently stayed at the palace as a personal guest of the Shah.

Prince Victor Emmanuel of Savoy, son of ex-King Umberto of Italy, recently stayed at the palace as a personal guest of the Shah.

Police officials declare that it

such a visit was actually made, it

was "strictly private."—France-Press.

'Declare Assets' Order To Officials

Karachi, Jan. 7. The Pakistani Government in a new move in its anti-corruption campaign, today ordered high Government service officers to declare the extent of their assets.

The order affects all first class federal officers and some second class officers. The Government also advised the provincial governments to do the same.

Officers found guilty of accepting bribes or abusing their official position would be liable to a maximum penalty of 14 years' rigorous imprisonment and confiscation of their property, the ordinance said.—Reuter.

ONE IN EVERY HOME

Radio Alarm Will Warn Americans Of Nuclear Fallout

New York, Jan. 8. An inexpensive device which can be plugged into a radio or television set to provide every American family with its own warning against nuclear fallout was shown for the first time today.

The device, known as the Banshee, because it sounds a high-pitched wailing alarm through the loudspeaker of the set when exposed to dangerous concentrations of radioactive fallout, is also designed to lead the family to safety through the radiation cloud.

The makers of the Banshee, Traceelab, Inc., of Waltham, Massachusetts, said the device could be made to sell for about \$5.

Plugged into radio or television sets, it will sound its alarm when radiation rises above a certain level, and in a portable set can be carried around as a护身符 to lead survivors of an atomic explosion from the danger area.

The pitch of its wail rises for increased radioactivity, and sinks to a low buzz as the danger decreases.

The company said it made the device after consultation with Dr. Willard Libby, the scientific member of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, who has long urged such a readily-available home fallout warning for the civil defence system.—Reuter.

HELPED NAZI ESCAPE

Berlin, Jan. 7. A West Berlin court today sentenced a 39-year-old journalist, Robert Kremer, to five months in prison for helping a Nazi war criminal escape to Syria.

Kremer in 1953 helped a former Nazi diplomat, Hans Rademacher, to leave Germany after Rademacher had been convicted by a Nuremberg jury of being an accessory to the murder of 1,300 Yugoslav Jews.

Kremer claimed he did not know Rademacher had been convicted by a German court. He said he had heard the allies were trying to arrest Rademacher.

"Therefore I considered it my duty as a German to help him escape," he said.—U.P.I.

Texas Yields

Washington, Jan. 7. Senator Lyndon B. Johnson (Democrat-Tex.) today finally conceded the title of "biggest state" to Alaska.

In opening session ceremonies just after the two new Alaskan senators had taken their oath of office, Johnson rose to address the chair.

"Mr. President, as Senator from the largest state of the union," he began. He paused, and then added amid laughter, "south of the North Pole . . ."

—U.P.I.

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DISCONTENT IN DE GAULLE'S RANKS

Firemen Find Tragedy In Straw

Hobart, Jan. 7. Firemen, called to put out a fire smouldering in a disused sheep pen at West Ulverstone, Tasmania, found the bodies of three young children burnt beyond recognition in the charred straw.

A resident of a house near the show grounds called the fire brigade when smoke was seen rising from the grounds.

The firemen found that a hurdle had been pulled across the top of the pen to form a closed "house" where the children are believed to have been playing.

Funns from a partly burnt motor car tube found in the pen are believed to have asphyxiated the children.

"Terrible Shock"

After an appeal to parents in the area to check the whereabouts of their children and report any missing, the police identified the children as Carol Dawn Colgrave, 10, her brother Edwin Clifford Colgrave, 8, and Colin Hayes, 9.

The superintendent of the fire brigade, Mr. Jack Shadforth said the fire had been burning for some time when the firemen arrived and they extinguished it in five minutes. "We got a terrible shock when we found the bodies of the babies in the straw."—China Mail Special.

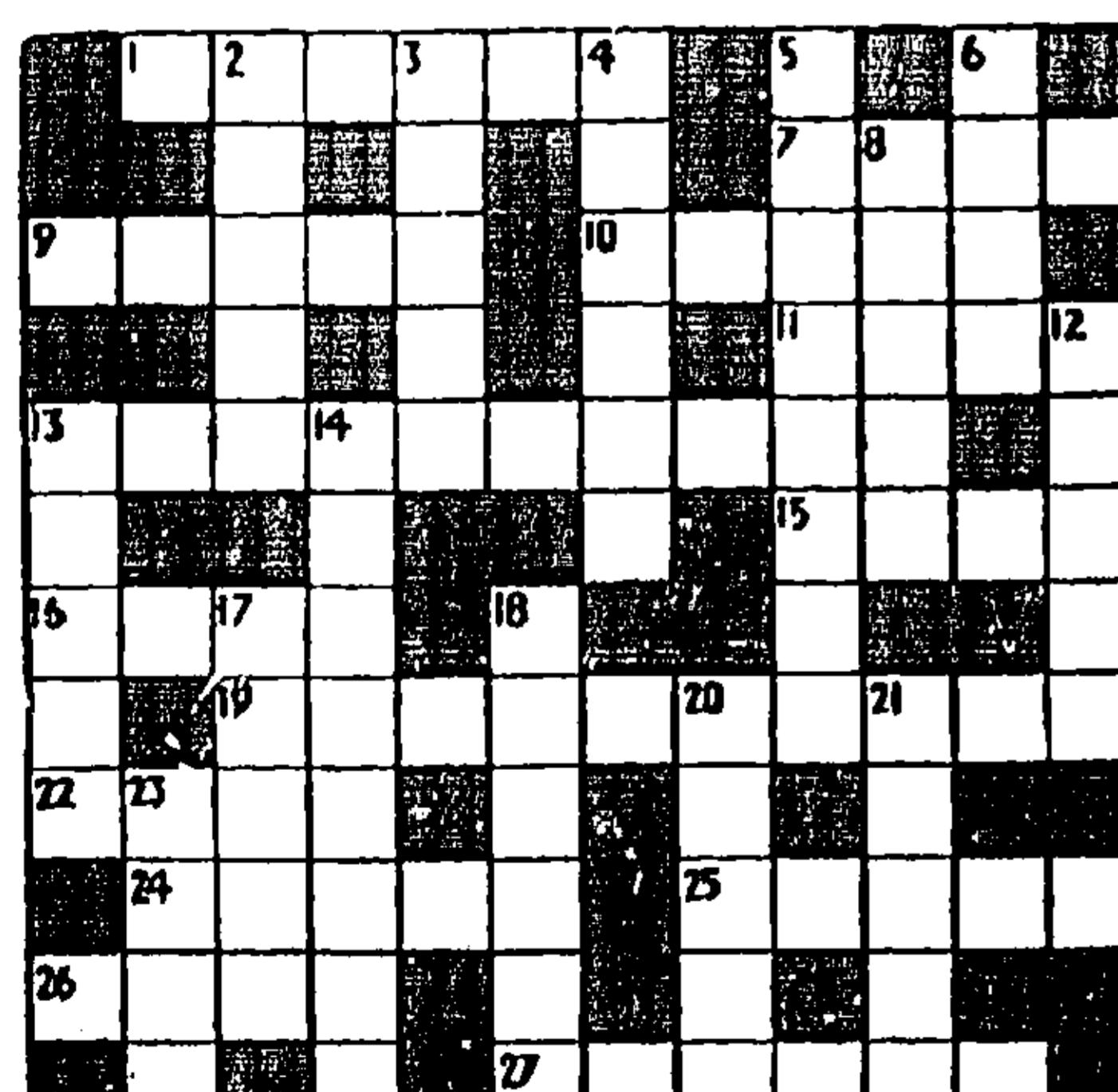
Conscience

Bonn, Jan. 7. Dr. Adolf Arndt, secretary of the West German Social Democratic Party, said today that nobody should be ordered to handle atom weapons of mass destruction, for training purposes, against his conscience. Reuter.

Poles Return

Warsaw, Jan. 7. Some 224,000 Poles have been repatriated from the Soviet Union since the signing in Moscow in November, 1958 of the Soviet-Polish repatriation agreement. It was officially announced today in Warsaw—France-Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



CROSS
1. Sudden, cry-windy (6).
2. Miss who regrets (4).
3. Huntress (6).
4. He pleads winners (5).
5. Bittersweet (4).
6. Marriage broker? (10).
7. The Forsyte story? Might be (4).
8. A vessel half open (4).
9. Control of the captain on the vessel (10).
10. Fall over on one's travels? (4).
11. Common practice (5).
12. In his business he makes some dough (5).
13. Revolutionary music, as it were (4).
14. Poor in Paris, perhaps (6).

WEDNESDAY CROSSWORD—Across: 1. Cart, 4. Scout, 7. Police, 8. Astro, 10. Tots, 12. Bare-ait, 16. Inter(ing), 18. Tear, 17. Lava, 19. Scif, 20. Specie-s, 21. Crim, 23. Herbs, 24. Re-veal, 25. York, 26. Stood. Down: 1. Capital, 2. Relative, 3. Ease, 5. Commo, 6. Utopia, 9. Pares, 11. Snack bar, 12. Street, 13. De-friend, 14. Trampled, 18. Appeal, 22. Hicke.

Farm, Tax Policies Bring Complaints From Supporters

Paris, Jan. 7.

The National Assembly's second-biggest party, the conservative Independents and Peasants, today expressed discontent with Premier De Gaulle's sweeping new financial and economic measures.

The party expressed anxiety over the new measures even though they were drawn up by the party's honorary chairman, Finance Minister Antoine Pinay, who recently left the party.

The Independents and Peasants parliamentary group sternly criticised the government's new policy on farm prices, social security and taxation according to "external signs of wealth."

Chairman Roger Duquet said: "General De Gaulle will be inaugurated president tomorrow and promptly designate a Premier, almost certainly Justice Minister Michel Debre, co-founder with Soustelle of the U.N.R."

Debre is expected to present Friday a government team comprising most of the present ministers, minus the Socialists and Minister of State Pierre Pithou, of the Catholic Popular Republican Movement (M.R.P.).

Pithou declined an offer to continue as Minister of State and take on part of the work of the Overseas Ministry which will cease to exist.

Another M.R.P. leader, Robert Lecourt, also refused to participate but the double refusal was regarded as technical rather than political. Pithou wanted a bigger and more specific job.

The big question mark remained the future assignment of Soustelle, leader of the May 13 upheaval in Algeria, who will be replaced as Information Minister by U.N.R. Secretary General Roger Frey—France-Press.

The 29-year-old author, Willis Hall, one of the young hopes of British drama —

shows a British patrol of six who have sought shelter in a jungle hut. After capturing a Japanese scout, they realise that they are cut off from their base by an enemy thrust.

Soon it becomes obvious that if they want to attempt to return to their lines, they cannot run the risk of betrayal by leaving the prisoner behind alive. The drama turns on their reactions of the British soldiers to the problem.

There are those who see in the Japanese the family man caught like themselves in the maelstrom of war and cannot bring themselves to condemn what appears to them plain murder.

There is the sergeant who, having to forget his humanity for the stark reality of the moment, decides that the prisoner must die so that his men may live.

In the end the prisoner is killed by a soldier who panics while the patrol is mown down by the enemy as it leaves the hut and the curtain falls as the most insensate of the soldiers staggers in to raise the white flag of surrender.

Mr. Hall does not pull any punches in stripping war of all romanticism.

Tension
He knows, too, how to build up dramatic tension. The play is skillfully acted by an excellent cast.

The Japanese prisoner, who expresses himself only by gestures, is played by Kenji Takada, a Japanese who took British nationality 20 years ago.

While serving in the British Merchant Navy during the last war, he was captured by the Germans and remained a prisoner for four years.

Willis Hall did his military service in Malaya where he wrote scripts for the Chinese Schools' Department of Radio Malaya.—Reuter.

Riot Leader Taken

Brussels, Jan. 7. Joseph Kasavubu, believed to be one of the leaders of the recent Belgian Congo riots, today gave himself up to the police at Kalamu, the Belgian Congo news agency reported to-night.—France-Press.

The central hall of the museum covers about 840 square yards and it has two wings which together occupy about 1,800 square yards.

Scientists estimated the animal must have lived about 70 million years ago, the news paper said.—Reuter.

Four Cinderellas



Cinderellas both are ballerinas Margot Fonteyn (left) and Svetlana Berlinska, pictured during dress rehearsal of Frederick Ashton's ballet "Cinderella" at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London.

Margot Fonteyn danced the title role on the first night.

Later, Svetlana Berlinska, Nadia Nerina and Anya Linden will each be dancing the title role in turn.—Reuterphoto.

Miler's Son Christened



Four-minute miler Roger Bannister holds his two-year-old daughter Erin while his wife Moyra carries their baby son who had just been christened Clive Christopher Roger, at All Souls', Langham, Place, London, on January 3.

With them are the rector, the Reverend J. R. W. Stott, godmother Mrs. Carole McWhirter and godfathers Chris Brasher (wearing spectacles) and Chris Chataway, the athletes who are both newly engaged.—Reuterphoto.

Malayam War Play Gets Big Reception

London, Jan. 7. A new war play, set in the Malayan jungle in 1942 before the fall of Singapore, and entitled "The Long And The Short And The Tall" was given an enthusiastic reception at the Royal Court Theatre tonight.

The 29-year-old author, Willis Hall — one of the young hopes of British drama — shows a British patrol of six who have sought shelter in a jungle hut. After capturing a Japanese scout, they realise that they are cut off from their base by an enemy thrust.

Soon it becomes obvious that if they want to attempt to return to their lines, they cannot run the risk of betrayal by leaving the prisoner behind alive.

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DRAGONS IN NEW MUSEUM

Peking, Jan. 8. A new Central Museum of Natural Science will contain models of three ancient dragons from 42½ feet to 16½ feet long.

The museum, built in the Chinese capital's Street of the Heavenly Bridge, will show how creatures developed from primitive times to the present, reported the Peking Evening News.

The central hall of the museum covers about 840 square yards and it has two wings which together occupy about 1,800 square yards.

The newspaper said a group of experts from the museum earlier this year discovered fossils of a primitive dragon, about 21 feet 8 inches long and 10 feet tall, in the Lai Yang Hsien district of Shantung Province on China's northeast coast.

Scientists estimated the animal must have lived about 70 million years ago, the news paper said.—Reuter.

Gold Hunters' Dream Blasted

Utrecht, Jan. 7. Dutchmen here today when they were told that 450,000 guilders (about £45,000) they invested in a bid to salvage bullion from a sunken ship had been spent in vain.

Mr. Visser told a liquidation meeting of the company to-day that not a penny of their capital was left. He still claims he can produce documents proving the freighter carried gold.

But the Hamburg owners of the ship, the German Underwriters and a Rotterdam coal trading firm all say that the Renate Leonhardt when she was torpedoed in 1940 sank in the North Sea Canal before it could be towed to the wreck.

RANDOLPH CHURCHILL

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This was the 3-day war that

• DIVIDED the world—and led Russia to threaten rocket retaliation on the West.

• DIVIDED the Western Alliance and led to a temporary feud between the American administration and the British Government.

• DIVIDED the country, regardless of party, more bitterly than at any time since Munich.

Even today the truth about this "police operation" is still obscured by passion and prejudice.

Surprised

"His surprise was genuine when I refused," the reader said.

This he said, could not have happened before 1939 and he wondered whether such men could help England win another war.

Other letters followed, some critical, others in support, culminating in one today urging that the anthem should be abolished anyway.

The words were "vulgar and repetitive" and "impious and pretentious", this critic said.—China Mail Special.

WHY was it launched?

HOW near did it come to success?

WAS there collusion between the Israelis and the forces of intervention?

WAS Britain's Army really ready to undertake the task set by the politicians?

WAS Sir Anthony Eden, the Prime Minister, fit enough to undertake the immense responsibility of leading Britain into a war situation?

WHAT was the role of America?

WHY did the bold conception fail?

RANDOLPH CHURCHILL

the most pungent and outspoken political commentator in Britain, has spent months of research finding out the real facts about

The Suez Story

In pursuit of the truth he has interviewed politicians, soldiers, and informed reporters in London, Washington, Paris, and Tel Aviv.

Now the full, true story can be told for the first time.

It is a story that discloses many new facts. It has already excited world interest. It is certain to provoke heated arguments everywhere.

The Suez Story

by Randolph Churchill

starts in the

CHINA MAIL

on Saturday

In tomorrow's China Mail, Randolph Churchill explains "Why I want to tell the Truth about Suez now."

So THIS Is Hollywood!

By Norman King



Mr and Mrs Cary Grant

"Well, what do you think of this movie-making business? Doesn't it bore you to death?"

The question came from Cary Grant, whom I found waiting around for a call at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios. He is playing the lead in a new Hitchcock thriller.

I could see why working with Alfred Hitchcock might be tedious at times for the actors.

These wonderful films, which on the screen have all the trimmings of a teeming traffic problem, are jammed almost solid.

Such a state of affairs begets tremendous wealth. In fact the per capita income here is 25 per cent more than the United States average.

And though Los Angeles still ranks only third among U.S. cities in terms of population behind New York and Chicago, the retail sales from its shops are now ahead of the Chicago figures and still soaring.

Los Angeles may not live up to the name "City of the Angels." The 32,000 marriages in Los Angeles County last year were almost matched by the 31,000 divorces. But it is certainly an El Dorado. Though only a few thousand dollars' worth of actual gold are produced each year, it is a place where one can literally strike oil in one's back garden.

Even in the middle of one of the big Hollywood film lots twenty oil wells are producing day and night. And on the fabulous Signal Hill at Long Beach, the number of derricks runs into hundreds.

★ ★ ★

A spread outwards instead of upwards has been accelerated by an only recently modified ordinance forbidding buildings of more than twelve storeys, because of earthquake danger.

One usually seems to be, at least a few miles from where one wants to be next. And the only way to living in such saturation is the motor car.

Last year there were 2,737,530 cars registered in the Los Angeles metropolis area. That figure is equivalent to one per family, with more than half-a-million left over.

In the rush hour one would swear that they are all out once, and even the new six-lane

POCKET CARTOON
by OSBERT LANCASTER



"This is our finest hour! At long last we've got the chance of asking 'And what exactly is a—hula hoop?'"

Tomorrow:
CARVED FROM
THE DESERT

HARRY ODELL

PRESENTS

LE THEATRE D'ART DU BALLET
AT THE
KING'S THEATRE

Artistic Director and Ballet Mistress:
TATIANA PIAKOVA

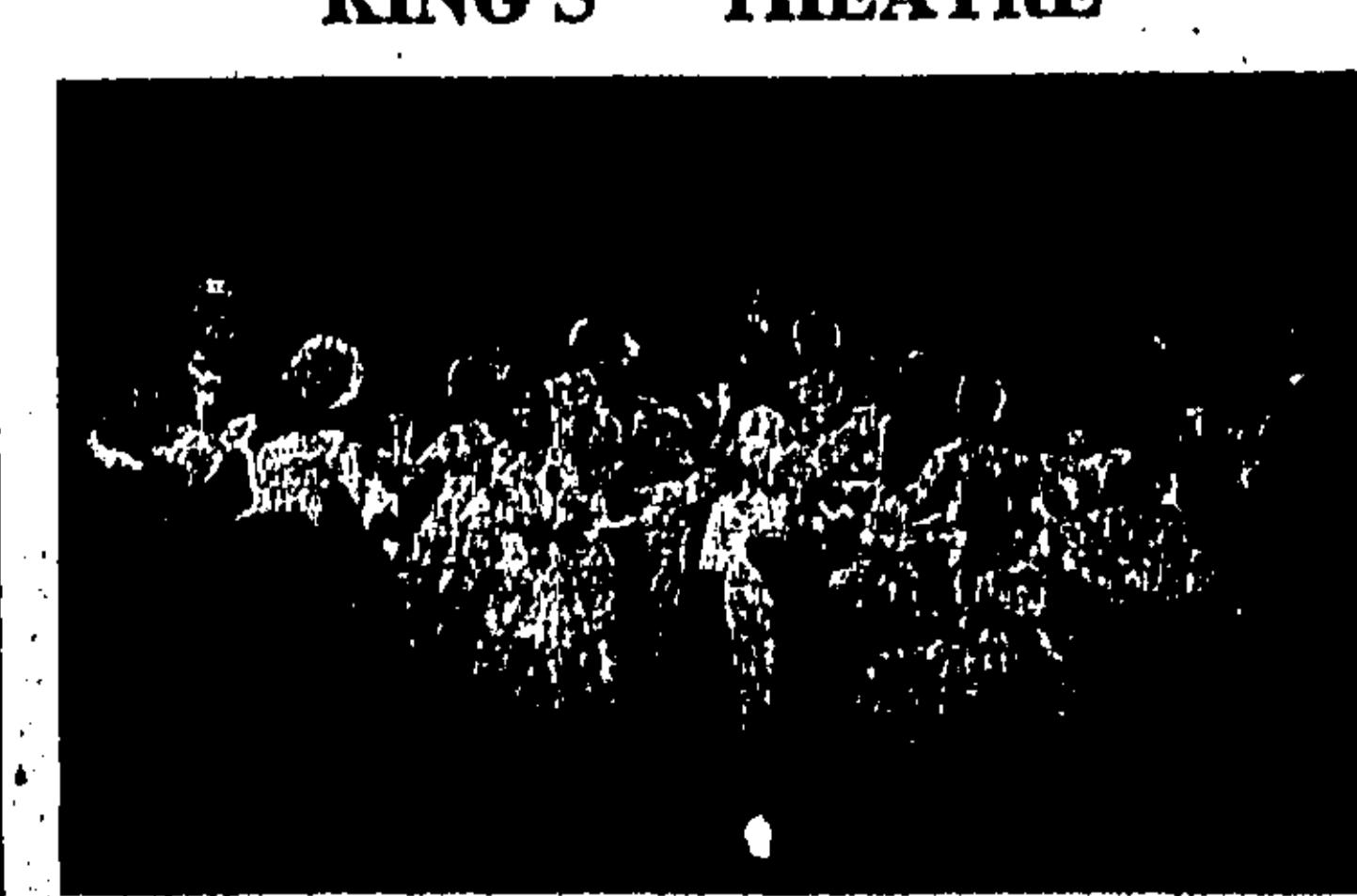
Musical Director and Conductor:
NICOLAS KOPEKINE

* * *

Artistes:

Anna Gallina
Isabelle Wanner
Monique Josephovitch
Louise Dobrilovic
Nico Lello
Teresa Kujawa
Stefan Wanja
Nicolas Petkov
Wladislaw Wroblewsky

Carmen Valencio
Françoise Nef
Liliane Greff
Marie Petkov
Amy Dolbo
Hélène Longuet



TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY,
JANUARY 13, 14, 15, AT 9.30 P.M.

NEW YORK

DON IDDON'S DIARY

TUESDAY

'I'm upset,' says Miss Pat



OF COURSE BRITISH WOMEN

MISS PATRICIA HORNSBY-SMITH, who has been decorating the New York scene, is always doing some marathon work in the United Nations. Her hair flying, she strode across the crowded room of a cocktail party I dropped into and bore down on me.

"Very upset by some London has been given of the things which have the impression that it's appeared in the British all been a round of pleasure. Bone to pick sure. You know no one with them, with you, could have worked

harder [this is true]. Please straighten it out."

I explained that I had not written a line about her and was not responsible for other people's dispatches. Miss Hornsby-Smith, mollified, continued her monologue:

"It's absurd to think that American women play a bigger part in the nation's affairs than British women. We do far more in Britain. All appeals, diversions, manoeuvres by white Southerners have been rejected by Chief Justice Warren and his eight co-judges on the Supreme Bench.

"I've got to go now. I should have been sailing, but instead I'm going to catch the Comet. I know you'll make things clear for me."

She sped away, a dynamo, to make more speeches, attend more meetings, ready to help America as well as Britain.

Warren...?

It is known that the Republican Party would prefer Eisenhower's successor to be Warren rather than Nixon, despite the

Vice-President's success in London.

"Apart from Warren, all the others — Nixon and Rockefeller for the Republicans and Humphrey and Kennedy for the Democrats — look like Vice-Presidents, not Presidents, to me," Bernard Baruch said this week.

The Democrats, knowing what a formidable candidate Warren would make, are saying: "Earl should not step down from the Bench." They are also saying: "We might be able to kick Warren, but how could we kick that family?"

They mean the three Warren daughters — the Californian princesses Virginia, Dorothy, and Nina, who are worth several hundred thousand votes, perhaps more, to their father.

Two of the daughters are married — Dorothy to Dr Carmine Clemente and Nina to Dr Stuart Brien. The engagement of the third daughter, Virginia, is expected to be announced soon.

Chief Justice Warren has certainly done this. This big, smiling, gregarious man, three times Governor of California, long-time lawyer who ran for the Vice-Presidency ten years ago, has been lured into politics again.

He became world-famous not overnight but in just 28 minutes, when he handed down the decision that coloured children should be permitted to attend white schools.

Now he is adamant that the decision should be carried out however fiercely the South shouts "No."

IT'S SO EASY TO GET YOUR FINGERS BURNED

In this tricky business of buying art

By

DAVID CARRITT

For instance a splendid family group by Romney was sold at Sotheby's last week for £3,400.

Collectors who imagine that the works of more recent artists are bound to appreciate in value would do well to remember the pictures from Sargent's studio, sold after his death in 1925. Sargent was then considered a major genius, the equal of Manet and Velasquez.

Lord Duveen paid over £3,000 for a small view of the Vatican, and, stranger still, Agnews paid £1,995 for a Sargent copy after Velasquez.

Today only a few of Sargent's portraits are admired, and then for their technical dexterity.

The risk

Every day we read of sensational increases in value; for instance, that a Vlaminck landscape sold for £14,000 in 1912 has been resold for £5,400.

Of the sensational decreases we hear, almost nothing. Sargent's View of the Vatican would probably slip through the saleroom unnoticed.

The owner of the Vlaminck, Clive Bell, was interested in pictures not in money. Collectors of his calibre are bound to do well.

But the army of fashionables who bettle for the fashionable painters may well be in for some bitter disappointments. If ever there should be a financial depression, who will want to relieve them of their depressed, simile, simile, simile, simile?

DURING the past few years pictures have become as popular a form of investment as Standard Oil.

The general level of prices has never been higher, even in the great days of Lord Duveen. Pictures of almost every type and period sell well.

The chances of getting a saleroom bargain have become infinitesimal. And pictures

bought only a few months ago for high prices today sell for even higher.

Bulwark

Everything encourages the collector to regard his pictures as a bulwark against inflation.

Rubens and Tiepolo sketches, Impressionists and Post-Impressionists, Dutch and English landscapes — the saleroom prices for all these have soared since the war.

And so far there has been no sign of them sinking.

I should like to believe that all the rich men now investing in pictures stand to gain by their purchases. But looking back over saleroom prices during the past 60 years, I can see no grounds for such optimism.

Price cut

On the contrary, the saleroom proves that only a handful of supremely great masters are immune from the vagrant fashion and the stock market.

At the turn of this century, English and American millionaires competed as eagerly for paintings by Victorian and Barbizon School masters as they did for Rembrandts.

PROGRAMMES
(subject to change without notice)

JANUARY 13
LES SYLPHIDES • JIGOUKI •
BALLADE • ARLEQUIN

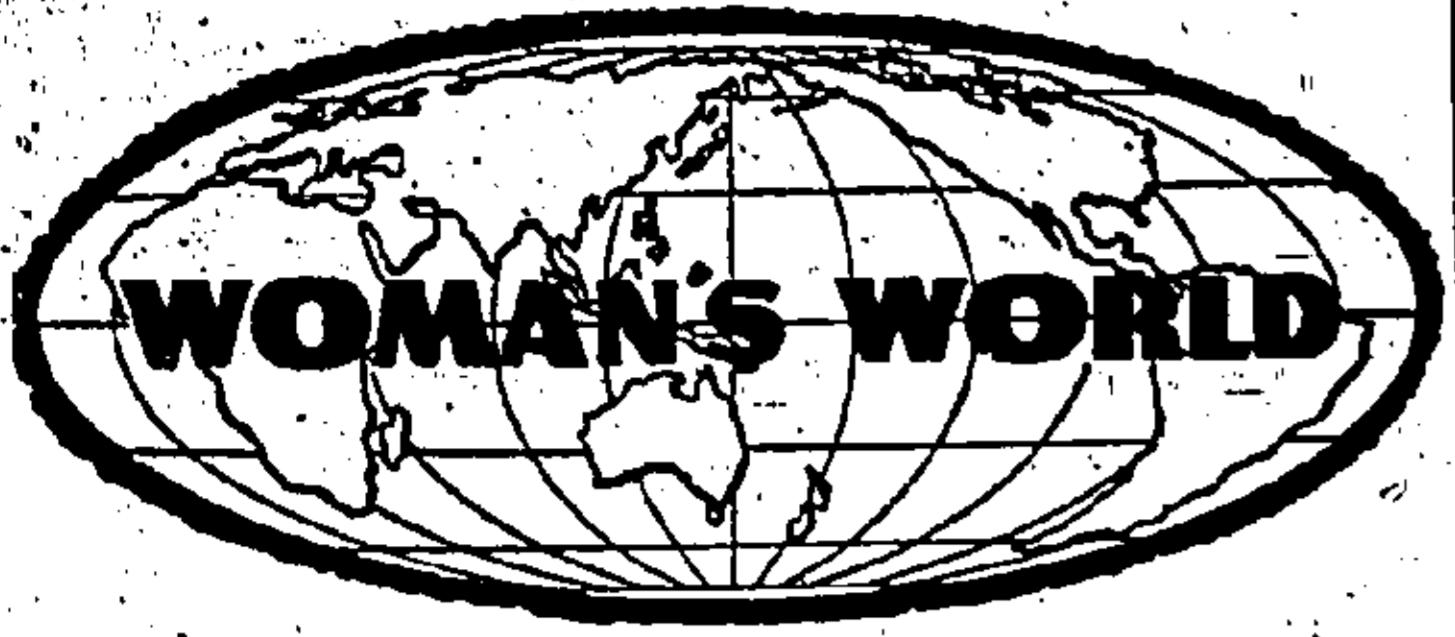
JANUARY 14
ELFES • DANSEUSES D'OPERA •
SPECTRE DE LA BOSE • CARNIVAL

JANUARY 15
LES SYLPHIDES • ISLAMEY • BALLADE
• CARNIVAL OR ARLEQUIN

BOOK NOW AT
INTERNATIONAL FILMS, LTD.
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and
HARRY ODELL'S SHOWBOX
Glossop Avenue (at Travels Adverts)
Tel. 84311, 84333

WOMAN'S SENSE

WISHING FOR A LEAN NEW YEAR?



FOOLED THE DOCTORS

Denver, THIRTY-FOUR years ago, Mrs A. E. Perry of Montgomery, Ala., was brought out to a sanatorium in Colorado. She was believed to be dying of tuberculosis.

From her sanatorium window every day she saw Colorado's 14,260-foot Mount Evans. The sight gave her spiritual strength and hope. She decided to paint a picture of the mountain, although she'd never done any painting before.

Today, at 68, Mrs Perry has outlived all the doctors who in 1924 gave her two months to live and has just completed her 212th oil painting for the Church of Christ.

Mr. Perry put the final touches recently on the 8-by-16-foot mural for the baptistry of the Church of Christ in Thornton, Colorado, the Denver suburb where she lives.

"Watching that wonderful Mount Evans range every day inspired me," she says now. "I came not to be morbid; not to worry whether I lived or died—and I knew I would live." Three years after she came to the sanatorium, she was discharged as an arrested case, although she still is an invalid.

Her paintings, some 32 feet long by 10 feet high, hang in

Christian churches in every state except Mississippi and the New England states. Two are in Canada, there is one in Panama and one in the Philippines.

All are landscapes and most reflect the geographical features of the location where they hang—mountains in Colorado, plains and pine-covered sand hills in Texas and the Southwest, tropical flowers in Balboa, Panama.

For locations she's never seen, she uses a scene of the Jordan River, working from colored slides.

The paintings are all spiritually symbolic—the latest one shows snow-covered Long's Peak in Colorado representing God, and a rushing brook symbolizing the strength that flows from God.

"All my pictures have a spiritual application," she said. "Just as I believe everything in nature has a spiritual application."

Once the word got around about Mrs Perry's paintings—all 212 have been donated to the church—she was deluged with requests. "I had to tell them I had retired, for this year, at least," she says.

But next year may be different. It's pretty hard to retire, especially 34 years after you've been given two months to live.

By JEFF GRIGSBY

JACOBY on BRIDGE

There is a time and place for everything—even trumping your partner's trick.

East's three diamond overcall was a nuisance bid designed to upset the enemy's communication. This time the bid had no effect as South was able to bid three hearts and North had a sound raise to four.

West opened his singleton diamond. The way the cards lay a trump opening would have been better but West was not clairvoyant.

South won the first diamond, led a club to dummy's ace and a spade from dummy. East played the three and South went up with the king only to see it lose to West's ace.

CARD Sense

Q—The bidding has been:

North East South West

1♦ 1♥ 1♦ 1NT.

Double Pass?

You, South, hold:

AK87 ♦K65 ♦753 4♦975

What do you do?

A—Pass. You are willing to try to set the no-trump contract.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding has been:

North East South West

1♦ 1♥ 1♦ 1NT.

You, South, hold:

AK86 ♦K75 4♦732 4♦87

What do you do?

Answer tomorrow.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



If you can keep your waistline while all about are losing theirs, then a happier New Year is in store for you.

Chew on this new twist to Kipling if you are one of the millions who must battle bulges during the New Year, as in the old.

You can't resolve to be antisocial and sit in a corner at parties and festive dinners. But others with fewer calories. Every time you open that mouth, it counts in this waistline war, seems the hostess insists on popping some calorie-laden thing into it.

How to brake the habit? Stick by good dieting principles. It's better to be careful now than plump later.

Play down foods which add inches at a gallop. Substitute others with fewer calories. Leave the drum sticks for children. White meat is lower in calories than dark.

There's less to be "gained" from seasonal dishes such as cranberry sauce and chestnuts than from candied yams—dripping in calories.

Fresh green salads are always good, if you shy from the rich dressings and sauces. Vote for oil, vinegar, tomato or similar slim toppings.

Radishes, celery, carrot sticks, pickles and relish are more slimming than olives.

Stand by the clear soups. Use blenders where creamy ones are concerned.

Cocktail hour and between-meal nibbling can be calorie-cheap and delicious. Feast on boiled shrimp and lobster, crab meat or oysters.

You can conserve calories by switching to artificial sweeteners for coffee and tea. Maybe the hostess will serve low-calorie desserts too, to help you along.

Danger lurks in the dinner party that's way past the usual eating time. Hard-to-control hunger pangs may drag you weak and helpless to the refrigerator before it's time to start for the party.

To reinforce calorie control, check with a doctor about the use of appetite suppressants. A new one does not stimulate the central nervous system. Medical reports indicate it can be taken at night and does not disturb sleeping later on.

On the drinking side, remember that most cocktails run-over with calories. Dry red or white wine, mixed with soda water as a "spritzer" will last a long sipping time without supplying too many calories.

With this the Chef agreed, for he'd ordered the same entrée.

Next day, he prepared the Veal Chop Special in the test kitchen. As this dish is really exceptional, we're starring it today.

The young women, who proved to be court stenographers, had come from Bridgeport, Connecticut, for a weekend in town, including dinner at a restaurant where they were certain to see celebrities. And sure enough, a well-known band leader and a group of his friends were near us, enjoying baked flet of sole Foreside.

THE Chef and I were seated on the long banquette, and I always manage to pick up some ideas to improve our home cuisine.

At my right sat two glamourous young women, at the Chef's left, a husband and wife evidently of the young married set. Who could resist chatting with such pleasant-looking neighbours?

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For instance, this brochette of chicken liver is delicious, I'm going to try to duplicate it for brunch party.

"John ordered the stuffed veal chop special which I just tasted. It's really wonderful; so new and different."

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The young women, who proved to be

ON THE SOFTBALL SCENE

The Case Of The Lady And The Obstinate Team Manager

By "TIME OUT"

You would not be able to purchase a copy of "The Case of the Obstinate Manager" from any local bookseller. It is not a "whodunit" in the strict sense of the word since the guilty party's identity is divulged to readers right from the start. It is, in fact the hitherto untold tale of a classic example of a deplorable mockery of the amateur spirit which we hear so much about in local softball. Believe me through unavoidable circumstances I was unable to give this my earlier attention but as the saying goes, better late than never so the usual forecasts take a back seat.

There are people in softball, players and team managers, coaches, and others alike, who through timidity, ignorance of accepted procedure and even a misguided sense of good sportsmanship are powerless to right a wrong although the victims may have a strong case to put forward.

Such is the case with the young lady who still wishes to play softball for the University Club. Although signed up for South China AA before the league got underway she subsequently had occasion to regret this affiliation with the Carolines. We need not concern ourselves with the reasons for her switch of affections. Suffice to say that she OFFERED her services early in the season to a sorely-pressed University team weak in one vital playing position which she could fill.

Unanswered

Thereupon on November 24, 1958 the University wasted little time in despatching a letter to South China, outlining the circumstances and requesting consideration of the player's release to enable her to transfer to the U before the expiry date, two weeks off.

A copy of the letter was passed on to the HK Softball Association. It went unanswered and two days before the deadline for transfers, December 7, 1958 the anxious U manager telephoned his counterpart in the South China team. It was informed that his letter had been received, no action was contemplated on it since South China considered it unethical to enquire of their players if they desired a move to other teams. I have no disagreement with this view since the player involved made no formal request for a release. Anyway at King's Park two days later the matter finally came to a head.

Amazing Statement

In the presence of both team managers the young lady was asked by the U if she still desired a transfer and the answer was "Yes." At this stage a very high official of the HKSA who was seated in the stands saw fit to join the conversation and having learned the circumstances then made an amazing statement. He expressed the opinion that in amateur sport it is not necessary to reply to all letters received. If one does not feel like it! Furthermore he added it was purely for the individual concerned to decide whether or not this constituted a breach of etiquette.

Let me say this, I sincerely hope what he said is strictly his private opinion because considering his high position within the Association, if his words were intended as an official pronouncement, he has no business to be connected with the governing body of the sport. The words are an insult to the intelligence and no right-thinking person will disagree with me when I say that purely as a common courtesy the U were ENTITLED to a written reply from South China favourable or otherwise. It would indeed lead to a sorry state of affairs if, assuming the gentleman is correct in his views, letters from the Association to teams, umpires, coaches, etc and vice versa found their way to the waste-paper basket and stayed unacknowledged and unanswered.

Refuse To Budge

Taking refuge behind the alleged discourtesy on the part of the lady player who through lack of knowledge in these matters saw fit to put through her request in an indirect manner, South China even now refuse to budge an inch.

At time of writing the lady is still on their roster despite her saying publicly that she wished to play for some other team. For my part I can see no earthly reason for them to bar the way. Softball is not a professional sport but South China are taking a professional stand in the matter. The Association cannot take it upon themselves to act unless a formal complaint is lodged against South China but who will make

over the Dodgers, take on the Austers and should cakewalk to victory.

Following this the 3.30 game has the Cards pitted against the Cheyennes. Both sides are presently playing softball more suited to the ladies' division but the Cards have an edge in the form of pitcher Sonny Machado. I'll stick my neck out and pick them to win this important one.

Sunday's proceedings get off

to a bright early start when the Stardusts, on the slide after seven

defeats in the last eight games,

take on the Eagles. The latter

should have too much bating

power for the youngsters to pull

off an upset victory.

If the Association sticks firmly to the transfer rule you can

consider the case closed. If it

should choose to investigate the

circumstances they will be sur-

prised to find that on a technical

a loop-hole does exist

whereby the interests of justice

will be served. So much for that,

for the week-end games.

Week-End Games

There are six matches down for

the Cardinals and the

Cheyennes and the Senior game

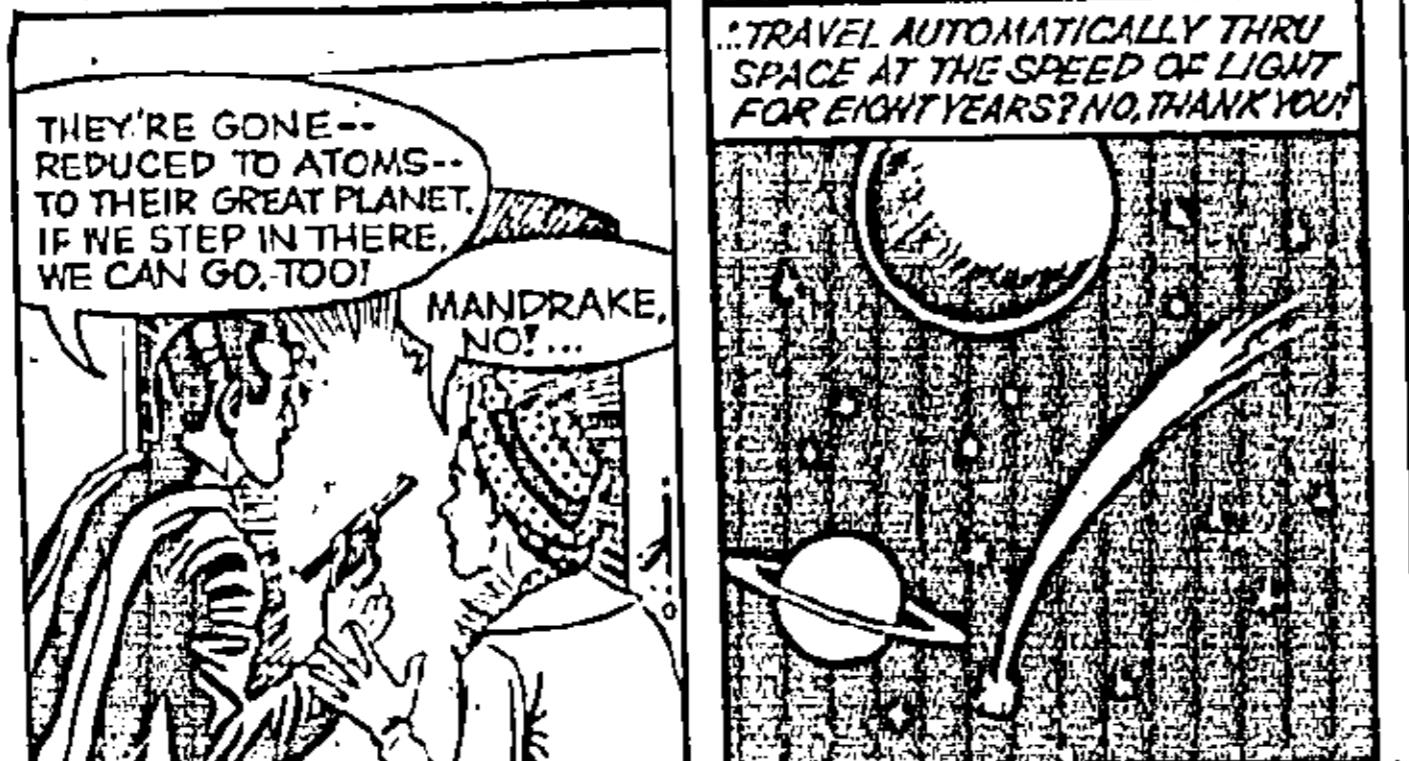
between South China and the

Cheyennes stealing the spotlight.

Tomorrow the Diamonds

fresh from their upset victory

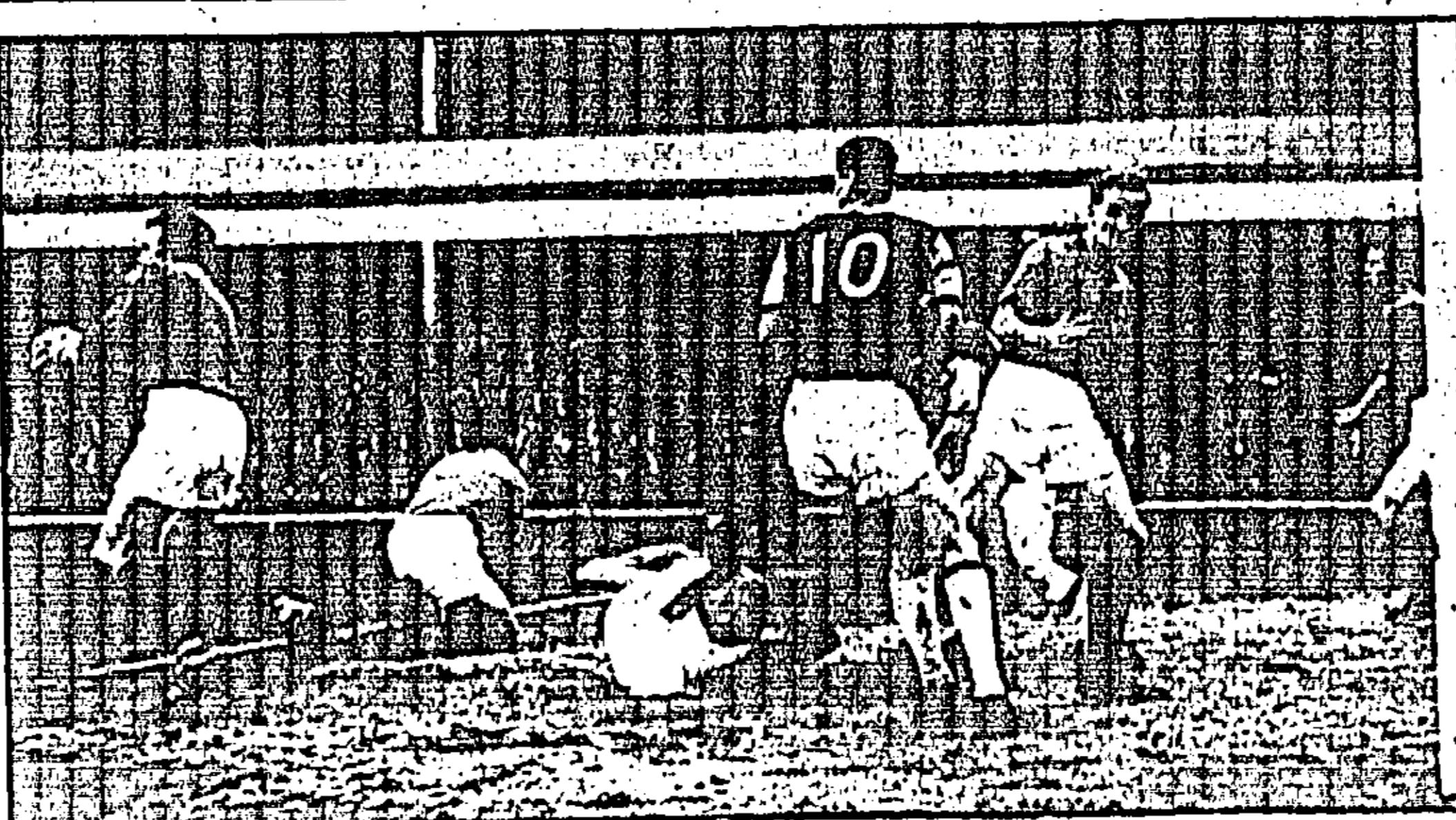
MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN



...REDUCED TO A BLOB OF GREAT PLANET. IF WE STEP IN THERE, WE CAN GO, TOO!

MANDRAKE, NOT...

Left Gaping and Sprawling



Uprichard, the Portsmouth goalkeeper comes right out to save leaving the Hammers inside-left gaping at an empty net, and Smith, the Hammers left-half and Heywood, the Portsmouth centre-half sprawling on the ground.

The above photo is taken from the recent English first division league match between West Ham and Portsmouth which the Hammers won by 6-0.—Sport & General Photo.

To round off the day the Austers should continue on their winning ways as they play the University. Only the most incurable optimist would dare predict victory for the under-graduates.

League Standings

SENIOR LEAGUE P. W. L Petrie

Saints 7 5 2 .714

South China AA 7 5 2 .714

Braves 8 5 3 .625

Cheyennes 7 4 3 .571

Seminole 8 3 5 .375

U.S. Navy 8 2 4 .333

Pandas 7 1 6 .143

JUNIOR LEAGUE

Cheyennes 11 10 1 .000

Cardinals 11 9 2 .018

P.I. Dodgers 11 9 2 .018

Comets 11 7 4 .036

Diamonds 0 5 4 .055

Eagles 11 4 7 .304

Stardusts 11 4 7 .304

HK University 9 2 7 .222

Austers 12 2 10 .107

Oversons 10 1 9 .100

South China AA 4 4 0 .000

Hurricanes 7 6 1 .057

HK University 8 3 2 .000

Overseas 3 1 2 .333

Maladors 4 1 3 .250

Toreros 7 0 7 .000

LADIES LEAGUE

South China AA 4 4 0 .000

Hurricanes 7 6 1 .057

HK University 8 3 2 .000

Overseas 3 1 2 .333

Maladors 4 1 3 .250

Toreros 7 0 7 .000

BUENOS AIRES, Jan. 7.—The MCC amateur touring association beat the Argentine Cricket Association here today by an innings and 19 runs with only 25 minutes left for play.

Ian Bedford (Middlesex) took 10 wickets for 95 runs in the match. Wicketkeeper C. B. Howes (Cambridge University) caught six batsmen and stump ed two.—China Mail Special.

Left Unexpectedly

Piggott left Capetown un-

expectedly on Monday, flew to Johannesburg, then on to Rome,

where he took another flight to Nice. Endes alleged that jockey

rumoured that he is dissatisfied

with the quality of the mounts

in this country in which he has

not yet ridden a winner past

the post.—France-Press.

Piggott has only ridden seven

of the 12 races for which he

had contracts in South Africa.

No clearcut reason for his

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Piggott has only ridden seven

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good you won't want to

keep! Stereovox records wake up

your ears and set your pulse

bounding with the thrill of

old fashioned fun. Try the sampler at

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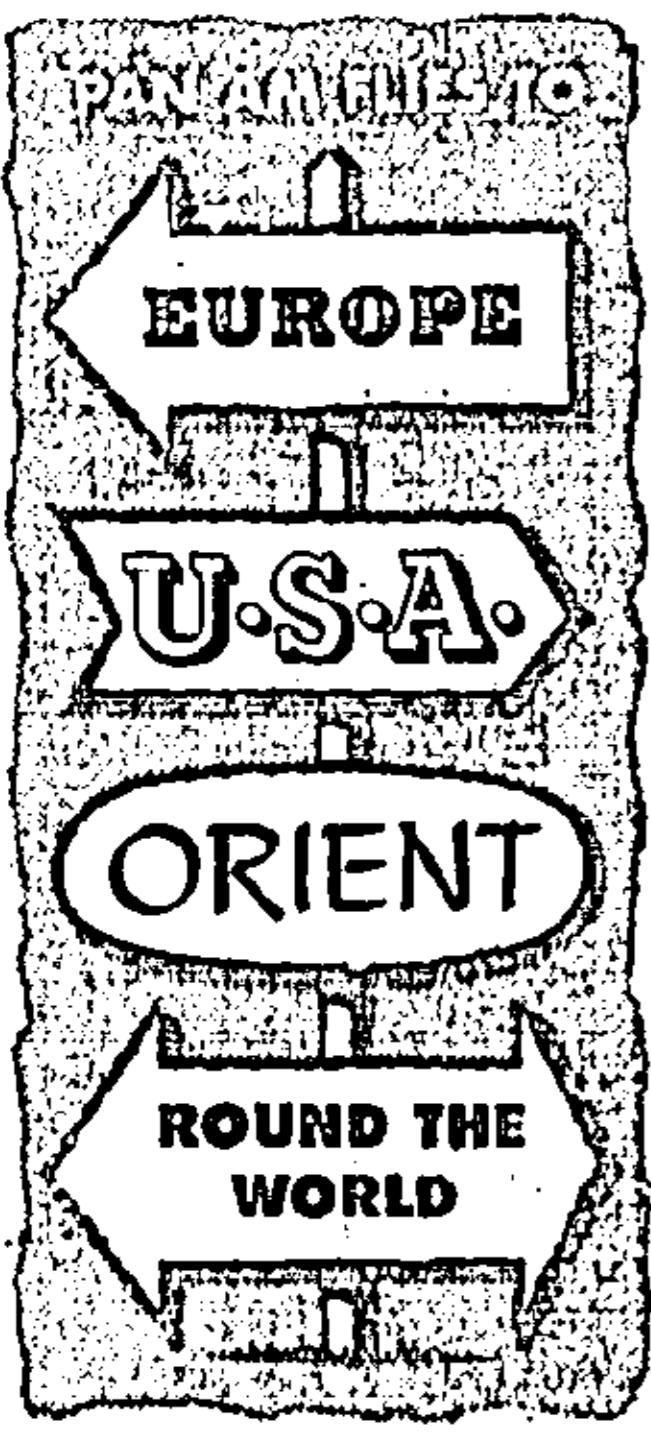
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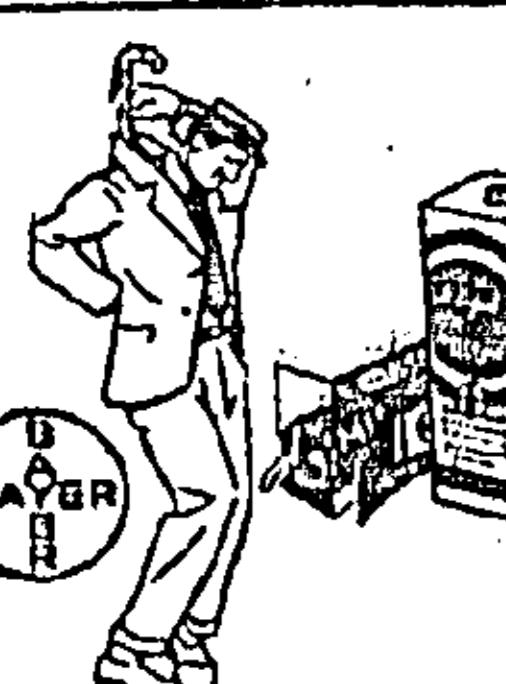
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GERMANYJAPAN NEWSLETTER By DAVID GORDON
KAMIKAZE TAXI DRIVERS HAVE KILLING SPREE

Tokyo. Tokyo's terrible taxi-drivers ushered in the New Year with a two-day killing spree which accounted for 23 lives lost and nearly 100 others injured in various degrees. The police blamed "poor visibility and slippery roads due to the heavy snowfall."

Of course the roads were slippery and at times visibility was limited to a few feet—considerations which did not deter this corps of maniacs in the slightest.

Those who failed to crash into other vehicles, streetcars or posts, overturned their cabs in symbolic gestures of the "Kamikaze" spirit.

The simple expedient of fitting speed governors to taxis, trucks and tricycles—the three-ranking offenders in the traffic anarchy—is obviously too logical for the authorities to enforce.

Three years ago there were hundreds of Volkswagen taxis put into operation in this city. Today there is not one left.

The drivers discovered the remarkable acceleration obtainable in that fine little car by using third gear for cruising.

In the hands of such lunatics, the cars turned into missiles and the results were disastrous.

One hero, some little time ago, in a final fit of frustration set about revenging himself on the taxis.

He was a driver for one of the Embassies and on his day off "borrowed" a formidable Buick of ancient vintage from the motor pool.

Fortifying himself with a fair measure of Japanese gin, he set out on one of the main streets and succeeded in hitting nine taxis before ending up against a telephone post, bruised and semi-conscious.

He explained to the police that he had been "driven to it by the behaviour of the taxi-drivers."

★ ★ ★

Citizens of Tonami City have been bitterly criticising the "negative attitude" of their Fire Brigade—and not without some reason.

It seems the firemen are very economy-minded and go through their regular drills dry in order to save the Y100 levied by the Municipality for each five minutes of water used from the hydrants.

Through ignoring the hydrants, the Brigade has forgotten most of their locations. In a recent fire...almost in front of the Fire Station itself...a hydrant was found to be missing.

Careful sleuthing showed that the outlet was in its correct place all right...except that it had been completely buried when that portion of the road was paved.

★ ★ ★
A sign of the times was seen in the falling off in attendance for the

BY THE WAY
by Beachcomber

A POPULAR hunt has decided to "bring field sports to the ordinary man" by enlisting thousands of supporters.

The extraordinary man, on his walk, will thread his way through crowds of ordinary men. There will be picnics, and the hours will not get away from the fox. Fields dense with ordinary men, singing and playing cards and quarrelling, will give a festive look to the whole affair. A leisurly gent, giving instructions to ordinary men says: "If you see a fox and the huntman is in sight, hold your hat in the air to attract his attention."

Unless not
I HAVE been sent this extract from a boy's essay on "The Cow":

The hoofs of his feet are closer so that the grass he eats will not get hurt. At night he repays by lying down on the ground like his cousin, the horse, which does not do so.

Geo, Tifonia!
In Act II of my pantomime, the Fairy Queen addresses her mortal elves thus—say, "Geo, Tifonia, whaddyer know?"

Footnote
If you found a dead elephant on the pavement would you leave it there, or pop it into a litter-bin?

—London Express Service



That Man Horne Again

Kenneth Horne almost loses his air of bland confidence as he helps to pull Kenneth Williams aboard just before the balloon goes up for the BBC comedy programme "Beyond Our Ken".

Assisting in the rescue are Hugh Paddick, Ron Moody, Patricia Lancaster and Betty Marsden.

"Beyond Our Ken" first went on the air in July, 1958, and proved to be one of the wittiest comedy programmes of the year.

Scriptwriters Eric Merriman and Barry Took say it is "a sort of radio show which includes this and that with bits and pieces from here and there of one thing and another."

Prime ingredient in its success is Kenneth Horne himself, well-known to listeners in Britain and overseas as one of the most polished artists in radio ever since he and Richard Murdoch established their long-running partnership in the BBC comedy series "Much-Binding".

"Beyond Our Ken" was one of the first BBC programmes Kenneth Horne undertook after recovering from a sudden illness in 1958, which forced him to give up some of his heavy business commitments.

Foreign residents who drive their own cars are often prone to speculate when their turn will come to collide with a noodle-vendor's delivery boy.

In tourist literature, these quaint—and senseless—characters are described as being one of the "colourful attractions to be seen."

Residents feel rather differently about them as they ride their bicycles at top speed while balancing a stack of dishes filled with hot noodles and soup—and generally, on the wrong side of the street or in the opposite direction down one-way

streets.

An acquaintance had his turn on New Year's Eve when one of these carefree creatures bounced off an oncoming street-car into an oncoming street-car into

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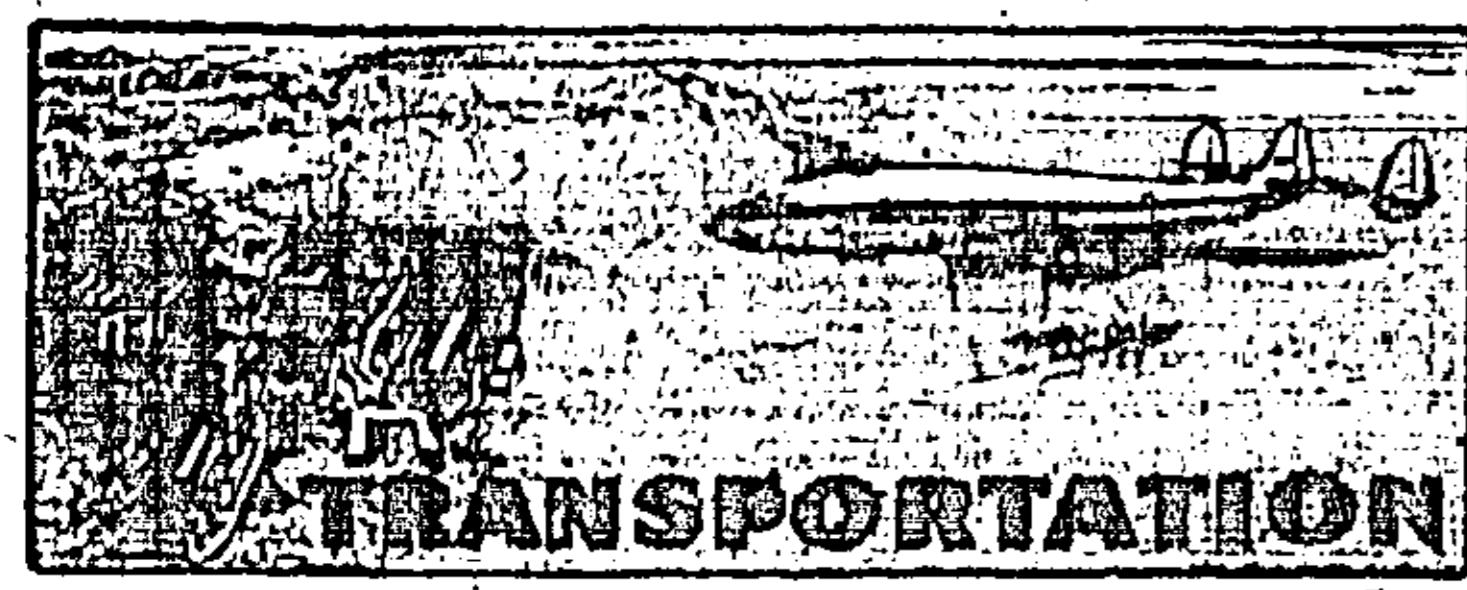
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CARONIA TO MAKE SUMMER CRUISE TO ARCTIC WATERS

New York. A SUMMER cruise by the Cunard liner Caronia, round the North Cape of Scandinavia and into Arctic waters, was announced here by the Cunard Line.

The North Cape cruise, now in its ninth year, will include visits to 22 ports in ten European countries, including Iceland, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Scotland, Britain, and France.

The cruise, which leaves New York on July 2, will give travellers an opportunity to visit Russia and Poland. At the start in Helsinki and Copenhagen respectively, a transport will be available for brief visits to Leningrad, Moscow and Warsaw.

FLOATING HOTEL

The 34,000-ton luxury liner, the largest ever built especially for cruises, will serve as a floating hotel for all the passengers during the cruise.

The liner will make stops at all the Scandinavian capitals, but will otherwise call principally at Norwegian ports, including Hammerfest, Langesund, Lofoten, Trondheim, Aandalsnes, Ytterdal, Merok, Bergen, and Stavanger.—China Mail Special.

West Germany Joins UN Maritime Body

London, Jan. 7. WITHOUT opposition the Federal Republic of Germany today became a member of the United Nations Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, at its first assembly being held here.

The Federal Republic, though not a member of the United Nations, is a member of a number of United Nations specialised agencies of which IMCO is the twelfth.

Her unanimous election to membership of IMCO announced by the Canadian chairman of the assembly, Mr Louis C. Audette, was no surprise and was greeted with applause by the delegates.

PRIVATE SESSION

The IMCO Council at a private session recommended the election of the Federal Republic to membership.

Then a few minutes later in open assembly her election was proposed by the Dominican Republic seconded by the United States and supported by Haiti.

Had a vote been necessary a two-thirds majority of the votes of the assembly of about thirty member countries would have been required.

Almost immediately afterwards the Federal Republic of Germany was also unanimously elected to serve on IMCO's six-nation Council.—Reuter.

Iron Curtain Ships Compete With West

Rotterdam, Jan. 7. THE Royal Netherlands Shipowners' Association said in a statement issued today that ships run under the flags of Iron Curtain countries were competing with the ships of Western nations.

It said the Iron Curtain ships, which already totalled more than five million tons, were government property and were not being run on a commercial basis.

Their cargo was ensured beforehand by restrictive clauses in trade agreements and allotments by government bodies, and it was practically impossible for other ships to take part in transport to and from the Communist countries.

The Association said that because of this, and other developments such as the seven million tons of laid up ships and a decline or perhaps a slowing down in the growth of ocean trade, the short term outlook for shipping was unfavourable.

But, it said, on the other hand a revival of world trade could be expected, because the world's population was growing and the world was needing ever more energy.—Reuter.

Italian Liners Immobilised

Rome, Jan. 7. A 24-HOUR strike, called by the Italian shipping companies' employees, trade union today has immobilised three liners, the Africa, Ausonia and Vulcania in Italian ports.

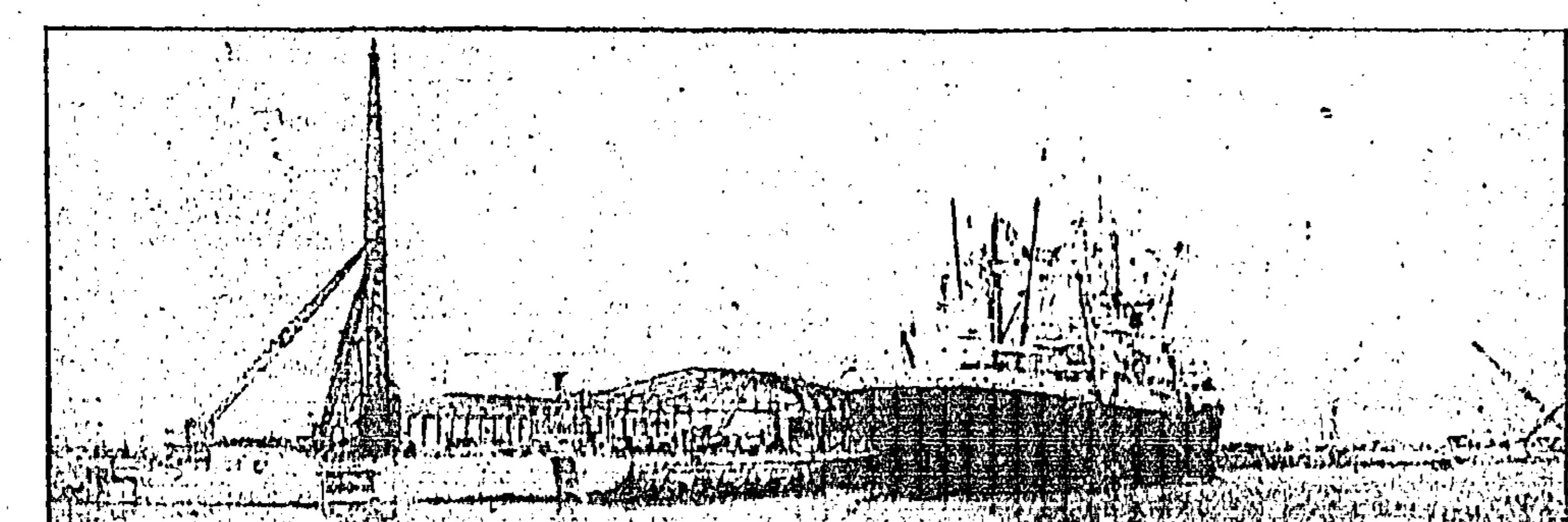
The strike was called in protest against measures taken by the big shipping companies against the employees who took part in the November general strike.

This strike ended with an agreement between the companies and the unions on the basis of union proposals for an improvement in the wages of employees and seamen.—France-Press.

Company Laying-Up

THE Mitsui Line—a leading Japanese shipping company—has laid up the 1,500 d.w.t. Meiji Maru as part of its plan to lay up a total of 50,000 tons. This is the first time so far as has been laid up 22,500 tons. According to Mr F. W. Spite, a director of the New Zealand Shipping Company, the total tonnage laid up in Japan is about 150,000 tons.

Britain Builds Africa's Largest Artificial Harbour



Tema Harbour, Ghana, is the largest artificial harbour in Africa and has been under construction since 1954. It will be completed in 1960. It has direct rail communication with the capital, Accra, and provides 500 acres of harbour protected by three miles of breakwaters. There are 20 miles of rail sidings, and two cocoa sheds have been built with a 180-foot span. The £12,500,000 contract is being carried out by a British firm of engineers.

Stocks Have Sharp Declines On Wall St.

New York, Jan. 7. Stocks today had their sharpest decline since the 14.68-point break in the industrial average on Nov. 24. Selling that had been well absorbed most of the day developed greater pressure at closing time with the tickers falling behind the market.

Widest declines came into the recent favourites which included many issues making up the averages. Du Pont was driven down more than seven points. Eastman Kodak dropped more than three. Chrysler lost two. U.S. Steel more than one and General Electric more than two.

Declines of three points or more came into National Cash Register, Bendix Aviation, Alcoa, Inland Steel, and several others. A long list fell two points, including Thielok, Hercules Power, Illinois Central, Western Maryland, Goodyear, Vick Chemical, American Home Products, Coca-Cola, Georgia Pacific, and U.S. Gypsum.

Several reasons for the decline were advanced but the general belief was that it represented nothing more than a technical setback after a prolonged rise.

The market had risen in the previous seven sessions, making

TEN ACTIVE STOCKS

New York, Jan. 7. Avo Mfg. 16.10 up 1.10. B.F. Goodrich 16.10 up 1.10. Case 14.85 up 1.10. El Paso Natural Gas 16.10 up 1.10. Family Finance Corp. 16.10 up 1.10. Firestone Tyre & Rubber 16.10 up 1.10. First Nat. City Bank 16.10 up 1.10. General Dynamics 16.10 up 1.10. General Electric 16.10 up 1.10. General Motors 16.10 up 1.10. Gen. Pub. Util. 16.10 up 1.10. Gen. Tyre & Rubber 16.10 up 1.10. Goodyear 16.10 up 1.10. Grinnell Corp. 16.10 up 1.10. Gulf Oil 16.10 up 1.10. Hayden-Peterson Corp. 16.10 up 1.10. Homestead Mining Co. 16.10 up 1.10. Ingersoll Rand 16.10 up 1.10. Interchemical Corp. 16.10 up 1.10. Int'l Business Machines 16.10 up 1.10. International Nickel 16.10 up 1.10. International Paper 16.10 up 1.10. Int'l Harvester 16.10 up 1.10. John-Manville Co. 16.10 up 1.10. Kaiser Aluminum 16.10 up 1.10. Kans. City Power & Light 16.10 up 1.10. Liggett Mexia Tob. Co. 16.10 up 1.10. Lockheed Aircraft 16.10 up 1.10. Lowry Incorp. 16.10 up 1.10. M. G. M. 16.10 up 1.10. McDonald's 16.10 up 1.10. McNeil 16.10 up 1.10. Michelin 16.10 up 1.10. Midland 16.10 up 1.10. Monogram 16.10 up 1.10. Morris 16.10 up 1.10. National Cash Reg. 16.10 up 1.10. National Dairy Prod. 16.10 up 1.10. National Steel Corp. 16.10 up 1.10. New York Central 16.10 up 1.10. Norfolk & Western Ry. 16.10 up 1.10. North-West Airlines (Conn.) 16.10 up 1.10. Olin Matheson 16.10 up 1.10. Olin-Matheson Glass 16.10 up 1.10. Overseas Corp. 16.10 up 1.10. Pan American Airways 16.10 up 1.10. Pan American Electric 16.10 up 1.10. Pan American Pictures 16.10 up 1.10. Penn. Salt Co. 16.10 up 1.10. Philip Morris 16.10 up 1.10. Pittsburgh Plate Glass 16.10 up 1.10. Pittsburgh Industries 16.10 up 1.10. Radio Corp. 16.10 up 1.10. Republic Steel 16.10 up 1.10. Sears, Roebuck & Co. 16.10 up 1.10. Shell Oil Co. 16.10 up 1.10. Standard Oil Co. 16.10 up 1.10. Standard Oil Ind. 16.10 up 1.10. Steep Rock (P.L.) 16.10 up 1.10. Sterling Drug Co. 16.10 up 1.10. Stokely-Van Camp 16.10 up 1.10. Sunbeam-Peterson Corp. 16.10 up 1.10. Sunshine Mining 16.10 up 1.10. Swift & Co. 16.10 up 1.10. Texas Co. 16.10 up 1.10. Textron Inc. 16.10 up 1.10. Time Inc. 16.10 up 1.10. Transocean Water. Assocs. 16.10 up 1.10. Twentieth Century Fox Film 16.10 up 1.10. Union Carbide 16.10 up 1.10. Union Pacific Railway 16.10 up 1.10. United Aircraft 16.10 up 1.10. United Fruit 16.10 up 1.10. United Gas Corp. 16.10 up 1.10. United Press 16.10 up 1.10. U.S. Gypsum 16.10 up 1.10. U.S. Line Co. 16.10 up 1.10. U.S. Rubber 16.10 up 1.10. U.S. Steel 16.10 up 1.10. Warner Bros. 16.10 up 1.10. Westinghouse Air Brake 16.10 up 1.10. Western Union Tel. Co. 16.10 up 1.10. West Va. Pulp & Paper 16.10 up 1.10. Woolworth 16.10 up 1.10. Zenith Radio 16.10 up 1.10. —U.P.I.

Closing Prices

Alding Inc. Acq. 5.24% Alton Corp. 5.24% Allis Chalmers 4.03% Allis Miles Inc. 2.01% Allis-Brake 2.01% American Airline 2.01% American Cable & Radio Corp. 7.7% American Cyanamid Co. 1.7% American Gas & Water 5.21% Am. Home Prod. 1.30% American Tel & Tel 2.23% American Tobacco Co. 0.61% American States 0.52% Amtrac 2.33% Atkins Cons. Mining 1.4% Atkins Corp. Mining 1.4% Battilino & Ogle 1.4% Beneficial Aviation Corp. 0.72% Bell & Co. 1.4% Bethlehem Steel 5.1% Boeing Airplane 4.4% Borden (The) Co. 7.0% —U.P.I.

since the 14.68-point

break in the industrial average on Nov. 24.

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Burroughs Add Machine 30.1% Calif. Packing Corp. 21.1% Campbell Soup Co. 20.1% Case (J. L.) Co. 21.1% Cat. Tractor 20.1% Clev. Corp. 21.1% Col. Financial Corp. 21.1% Chrysler Motors 22.1% Chub. Peabody 20.1% Columbian Carbon Co. 45.1% Commercial Credit 32.1% Commercial Elect. 24.1% Continental Oil of Del. 20.1% Crown Zellerbach 20.1% Cuban Amer. Sugar 20.1% Diamond Alkali 20.1% Douglas Aircraft 20.1% Dow Chemicals 20.1% DuPont de Nemours 20.1% Eastman Kodak 14.85% El Paso National Gas 30.1% Family Finance Corp. 20.1% Firestone Tyre & Rubber 20.1% First Nat. City Bank 20.1% Ford Motor 20.1% General Dynamics 20.1% General Electric 20.1% General Motors 20.1% Gen. Pub. Util. 20.1% Gen. Tyre & Rubber 20.1% Goodyear 20.1% Grinnell Corp. 20.1% Gulf Oil 20.1% Hayden-Peterson Corp. 20.1% Homestead Mining Co. 20.1% Ingersoll Rand 20.1% Interchemical Corp. 20.1% Int'l Business Machines 20.1% International Nickel 20.1% International Paper 20.1% Int'l Harvester 20.1% John-Manville Co. 20.1% Kaiser Aluminum 20.1% Kans. City Power & Light 20.1% Liggett Mexia Tob. Co. 20.1% Lockheed Aircraft 20.1% Lowry Incorp. 20.1% M. G. M. 20.1% McDonald's 20.1% McNeil 20.1% Michelin 20.1% Midland 20.1% Monogram 20.1% Morris 20.1% National Cash Reg. "A" 20.1% National Dairy Prod. 20.1% National Steel Corp. 20.1% New York Central 20.1% Norfolk & Western Ry. 20.1% North-West Airlines (Conn.) 20.1% Olin Matheson 20.1% Olin-Matheson Glass 20.1% Overseas Corp. 20.1% Pan American Airways 20.1% Pan American Electric 20.1% Pan American Pictures 20.1% Penn. Salt Co. 20.1% Philip Morris 20.1% Pittsburgh Plate Glass 20.1% Pittsburgh Industries 20.1% Radio Corp. 20.1% Republic Steel 20.1% Sears, Roebuck & Co. 20.1% Shell Oil Co. 20.1% Standard Oil Co. 20.1% Standard Oil Ind. 20.1% Steep Rock (P.L.) 20.1% Sterling Drug Co. 20.1% Stokely-Van Camp 20.1% Sunbeam-Peterson Corp. 20.1% Sunshine Mining 20.1% Swift & Co. 20.1% Texas Co. 20.1% Textron Inc. 20.1% Time Inc. 20.1% Transocean Water. Assocs. 20.1% Twentieth Century Fox Film 20.1% Union Carbide 20.1% Union Pacific Railway 20.1% United Aircraft 20.1% United Fruit 20.1% United Gas Corp. 20.1% United Press 20.1% U.S. Gypsum 20.1% U.S. Line Co. 20.1% U.S. Rubber 20.1% U.S. Steel 20.1% Warner Bros. 20.1% Westinghouse Air Brake 20.1% Western Union Tel. Co. 20.1% West Va. Pulp & Paper 20.1% Woolworth 20.1% Zenith Radio 20.1% —U.P.I.

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Burroughs Add Machine 30.1% Calif. Packing Corp. 21.1% Campbell Soup Co. 20.1% Case (J. L.) Co. 21.1% Cat. Tractor 20.1% Clev. Corp. 21.1% Col. Financial Corp. 21.1% Chrysler Motors 22.1% Chub. Peabody 20.1% Columbian Carbon Co. 45.1% Commercial Credit 32.1% Commercial Elect. 24.1% Continental Oil of Del. 20.1% Crown Zellerbach 20.1% Cuban Amer. Sugar 20.1% Diamond Alkali 20.1% Douglas Aircraft 20.1% Dow Chemicals 20.1% DuPont de Nemours 20.1% Eastman Kodak 14.85% El Paso National Gas 30.1% Family Finance Corp. 20.1% Firestone Tyre & Rubber 20.1% First Nat. City Bank 20.1% Ford Motor 20.1% General Dynamics 20.1% General Electric 20.1% General Motors 20.1% Gen. Pub. Util. 20.1% Gen. Tyre & Rubber 20.1% Goodyear 20.1% Grinnell Corp. 20.1% Gulf Oil 20.1% Hayden-Peterson Corp. 20.1% Homestead Mining Co. 20.1% Ingersoll Rand 20.1% Interchemical Corp. 20.1% Int'l Business Machines 20.1% International Nickel 20.1% International Paper 20.1% Int'l Harvester 20.1% John-Manville Co. 20.1% Kaiser Aluminum 20.1% Kans. City Power & Light 20.1% Liggett Mexia Tob. Co. 20.1% Lockheed Aircraft 20.1% Lowry Incorp. 20.1% M. G. M. 20.1% McDonald's 20.1% McNeil 20.1% Michelin 20.1% Midland 20.1% Monogram 20.1% Morris 20.1% National Cash Reg. "A" 20.1% National Dairy Prod. 20.1% National Steel Corp. 20.1% New York Central 20.1% Norfolk & Western Ry. 20.1% North-West Airlines (Conn.) 20.1% Olin Matheson 20.1% Olin-Matheson Glass 20.1% Overseas Corp. 20.1% Pan American Airways 20.1% Pan American Electric 20.1% Pan American Pictures 20.1% Penn. Salt Co. 20.1% Philip Morris 20.1% Pittsburgh Plate Glass 20.1% Pittsburgh Industries 20.1% Radio Corp. 20.1% Republic Steel 20.1% Sears, Roebuck & Co. 20.1% Shell Oil Co. 20.1% Standard Oil Co. 20.1% Standard Oil Ind. 20.1% Steep Rock (P.L.) 20.1% Sterling Drug Co. 20.1% Stokely-Van Camp 20.1% Sunbeam-Peterson Corp. 20.1% Sunshine Mining 20.1% Swift & Co. 20.1% Texas Co. 20.1% Textron Inc. 20.1% Time Inc. 20.1% Transocean Water. Assocs. 20.1% Twentieth Century Fox Film 20.1% Union Carbide 20.1% Union Pacific Railway 20.1% United Aircraft 20.1% United Fruit 20.1% United Gas Corp. 20.1% United Press 20.1% U.S. Gypsum 20.1% U.S. Line Co. 20.1% U.S. Rubber 20.1% U.S. Steel 20.1% Warner Bros. 20.1% Westinghouse Air Brake 20.1% Western Union Tel. Co. 20.1% West Va. Pulp & Paper 20.1% Woolworth 20.1% Zenith Radio 20.1% —U.P.I.

Stocks today had their sharpest decline since the 14.68-point

break in the industrial average on Nov. 24.

Selling that had been well absorbed most of the day developed greater pressure at closing time with the tickers falling behind the market.

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YOUR 10 BEST FILMS FOR 1958

Box Office Receipts Tell The Most Popular In Hongkong

By ANTHONY FULLER

CHINA MAIL FILM CRITIC

YOU chose these films as the best ten of 1958. I do not entirely agree with your choice, but the answer is in the box office.

On top is Paramount's "The Ten Commandments." There is not the slightest doubt that your choice is in line with the rest of the world. "The Ten Commandments" has scored everywhere, has broken many records, and is second only to "Gone with the Wind," as a box office success.

While admitting that "The Ten Commandments" is a production triumph, I think it was too uneven in pace to rate so high; for instance, the first half of the film was even laboured, whereas the forty years in the wilderness was permitted about fifteen minutes screening.

Good Choice

Also the trick photography was crude; the standing water and the magic fire were so crude as to be offensive to hyper-sensitive people who hold this legend with fundamentalist tenacity.

Second is "The Bridge on the River Kwai." Now you are talking. This academy-winning

award which pushed Alec Guinness into the 'actor of the year' position is a good choice.

To correct a number of errors, this film is not a British film, although it employs a number of British actors and technicians; actors Alec Guinness and Jack Hawkins, with David Lean directing. But it was made by an American company, and is therefore an American triumph.

Out Of Sympathy

Third comes Warner Bros' "Sayonara." An extremely good film, made with distinction with chief credit to the cameraman, Marlon Brando performed excellently as the American officer who undergoes a change of heart on the problem of consanguinity. Red Buttons also scored in this film, but permitting its casting and production triumphs, the film was altogether false in sentiment.

Fourth comes the unheralded "The Pride And The Passion" and 20th Century-Fox have to wait for "Peyton Place," to bring them in fifth. "Peyton Place," was a Jerry Wald production, and certainly

is a United Artists triumph.

"Don't Go Near The Water," brings MGM into the picture.

This film scored all the way with a good laugh at Military absurdities. At last the States can look back and laugh, and that is a good sign. Fred Clark and Mickey Shaughnessy stand out in my mind in this film.

Good Laugh

Also we must rate excellent performances from Tyrone Power and Marlene Dietrich. The film is a United Artists triumph.

"Witness For The Prosecution" brings RKO into the picture. This film scored all the way with a good laugh at Military absurdities. At last the States can look back and laugh, and that is a good sign. Fred Clark and Mickey Shaughnessy stand out in my mind in this film.

Number nine, and Fox come into the picture again with "A Farewell To Arms." This brought Rock Hudson and Jennifer Jones in the lead, but the film did not come up to my expectations, nor to the expectations of 20th Century-Fox.

Way at the bottom of the list is "The Bravados," at number ten.

It Proves

What does Hongkong's choice prove? That Hongkong, in the main, is becoming a more discriminating audience. Time was when Hongkong's choice for the film of the year used to send even Hollywood laughing—1949, for instance, when Hongkong rated "Bathing Beauty" as the outstanding artistic achievement of the year.

Red Skelton was funny, and a younger Esther Williams, a fine demi-maid, but I ask you, Oliver's "Hamlet" was not even among the also-rans that year.

In fact, taking it by and large, and remembering that in every town of the world, where the choice is left, as it should be, to the audience, Hongkong audiences have selected well in line with popular choice.

Up to the time of going to press, the woman still had not been found.

A TIGER? POLICE LOOK FOR WOMAN

Portuguese Gaoled For 8 Months

Regoiro Donato Ferreira, a 28-year-old Portuguese, was sentenced to eight months' gaol, and ordered to be bound over for a sum of \$500 for two years by Mr T. Creditor et al. Kowloon Court this morning, on three charges of obtaining money by false pretences.

Sentencing the defendant, the magistrate said he had taken into consideration the fact that the defendant had been in Police custody for two and a half months.

Ferreira was found guilty of obtaining a total of US\$120 and HK\$171 from a Mr Chau Iu-chu, by falsely pretending that he was a member of the US Consulate and that he was able to help Chau get travelling documents for Chau's mother to go to America.

The offences were committed in June 1958.

Denying the charges, Ferreira stated that he was in Macao at the time of the alleged offences, and that Chau and his mother must have wrongly identified him.

EMBEZZLER GAOLED

Chang Ying-chit, 27, a salesman, who admitted embezzling \$2,423 from his employer and losing it gambling, was sent to gaol for nine months by Mr L. Morris at Central Magistracy this morning.

In mitigation, the defendant asked for leniency saying that he had to support his mother, his wife and a child.

Last Night's Piano Recital By Freda Blank

FREDA Blank, who last visited Hongkong three years ago, gave a piano recital last night in the Lake Yew Hall under the auspices of the Bernard Ho Concerts of Youth Organisation.

The programme, although it contained some numbers unfamiliar to the writer, was a well-balanced one. It started with the E Minor Prelude and Fugue by Mendelssohn who was such an admirer of Bach, and to whom we are so much indebted for the resuscitation of a portion of Bach's music.

Then followed the delicate No. 27 Sonata by Beethoven.

The first half of the programme closed with Schumann's Scenes of Childhood, one of the "Scenes" of which is the familiar "Traumerei."

The second half included Debussy's Suite Bergamasque. Of its component parts, the "Clair de Lune" rather dwarfs the rest of this suite, but it was nice to hear it in its entirety.

After a short group which included delicate trifles by Casella and Turina, the programme closed with Frank Bridge's Fairy Tale Suite.

This was well played. There was a link with the past here in that the pianist's teacher was a pupil of Clara Schumann, and personally helped Frank Bridge to revise the proofs of this very suite before publication.

And of a resettlement area population now topping 273,000, only 104 had their occupation permits cancelled during the year 1957-58 for not paying

share have a rent of \$28 a month.

This contrasts with rents of as much as \$26 a month for a cubicle as small as 50 square feet paid by the many squatters still living in wooden huts in uncluttered areas.

These huts, some of which house 60 or 60 families and are two or three storeys high, bring in revenues in excess of \$1,000 a month for absentee "squatter landlords."

Total expenditure on the resettlement scheme now exceeds \$92 million. In the present financial year the Colony is budgeting to spend almost \$27 million.

The report estimates that 280,000 squatters still have to be resettled but the figure is not reliable.

How It's Fixed

When the first multi-storey resettlement blocks were under construction four years ago, it was decided to fix the rent for a standard room at a figure which would cover all annual recurrent costs and would also provide for the recovery in 40 years, with 3½ per cent of the original capital cost plus \$10 a sq. foot for land.

So that a family of two adults and two to four children pay \$10 a room of 80 square feet.

A family of three adults and three to five children pay \$14 for a room of 120 sq. ft.

A family of four adults and four to six children pay \$18 for 152 sq. ft.

Big rooms of 240 square feet for big families or two smaller families wanting to

Resettlement Dept Report

POOR BUT RENT DEFAULTERS ARE FEW

By A CHINA MAIL REPORTER

Hongkong's resettled squatters, which include some of the poorest families in the Colony, have an almost exemplary record for paying rent. The Resettlement department reveals in its latest annual report that of almost \$5 million due in rent, only a little over \$2,000 was written off as irrecoverable arrears in a period of a year.

A Story Coloured In

New York

STAFF REPORTER

Movie Director, Lewis Gilbert, recently back from shooting scenes in Macao for the film "Ferry to Hongkong," this morning described a newspaper report from New York saying the film crew had been getting Chinese Communist interference, as "vastly, vastly exaggerated," and "taken in the wrong light."

He added they had received good co-operation from everybody in Macao.

"All that really happened was that a Chinese barge passed by the waterfront. It turned on its loudspeaker and began to play Chinese music. For a bit of fun, we turned ours on, too, and we all ended up by waving at one another."

Mr Jerry Lewis, Publicity Director for J. Arthur Rank, explained that he had released a story on this incident, written in a "light jocular vein," to his New York office.

He called the cable appearing in this morning's paper "nonsense," adding that the wrong view had been taken of it.

The New York spokesman, releasing the information in New York, said that as Lewis Gilbert looked through his earnings he was startled to see Red Chinese flags all over the waterfront on the Communist side of the border.

The spokesman added that the border was gaily posted with placards declaring "Peace for Formosa," and that loudspeakers blared forth martial music and political slogans.

\$20 Fines

Summoned for mooring their motor launches off the Praia Grande in Connaught Road West without mooring lights, in the early hours of January 4, two coxswains, Chan Kam-chuen and Kwok Kam-moon, were each fined \$20 by Mr C. Calma at the Marine Court this morning.

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From the Files

25 years ago

THE work of erecting a magnificent new Confucius Hall will be commenced in Caroline Hill Road shortly.

The work of laying the foundation, which alone has cost \$80,000, has been completed and construction work on the building itself has been placed in hand.

When completed 12 months hence the temple will stand on one of the most picturesque buildings in the Colony, erected as a place of worship for the followers of China's most revered sage and writer.

Mr Kan Hung-chao initiated the project by donating the site of the temple. The hall is erected under the patronage of Sir Shouson Chow, the Hon. R. H. Kotewal, the Hon. Mr. S. W. Tsui and Hon. T. N. Chau.

After sitting on top of a 75-foot pole in Shanghai for more than four weeks, "Smoky Bill," the world's champion flag-pole sitter, was still "up" last week. He is out to beat his own 77-day four-hour record.

From the SCMP's 25 Years Ago column: Yesterday His Excellency the Governor laid the foundation stone of the new south wing of St Stephen's College. He was met at the College by his Lordship Bishop Lander and the Rev. Mr Barnett, warden of the college.

Following the disappearance of a Chinese clerk from the paint department of Messrs Dodwell and Company, investigations have revealed embezzlements from the firm totalling between \$7,000 and \$8,000.

MR Ireson of the Green Island Cement Company and Mrs Ireson, two old residents of Macao, left for England last week. Owing to the curtailing of activities, the Green Island Cement Company has had to dispense with the services of Mr Ireson who, as superintendent at Macao of the works, rendered great service to his company. Mr Ireson successfully urged the Government to impose an import duty on cement. He had resided in Macao for 14 years.

NEW GOVT OFFICES READY BY APRIL

STAFF REPORTER

Construction work on the new Government office building at the junction of Queen's Road and Ice House Street, is now nearing completion, and the block should be ready for occupation in April, about four months behind schedule. Six Government departments will be moving into the six-storey building, which will be fully-air conditioned.

The departments are, Treasury, Inland Revenue, Public Relations, the Registrar General, the Director of Audit and the Urban Services Department.

Construction began in February, 1957, when it was believed the building would be completed by the end of 1958.

U.S. Admiral Here

Vice-Admiral John M. Will, Commander of the United States Military Sea Transportation Services, arrived this morning by military aircraft from Taipei for an overnight stay before flying to Manila.

Ballet Group For

Hongkong

A FRENCH ballet company of 25 with their American founder Miss Anna Galina are due to arrive in Hongkong on Monday to give three performances in Hongkong.

The company follows what it calls the "reportory philosophy" of the Moscow Art Theatre where no stars are named and all artists are equal.

The company specialises in the works of Michael Fokine and presents them in their original setting.

Its programme will be drawn from romantic and classical works. Favourites like Les Sylphides and Spectre de la Rose will be included in the nine different ballets they will perform.

The group is doing a Far East tour. It recently gave well-reviewed performances in Japan. Now it is in Manila. None of the company's stars are featured personally.

Its programme will be drawn from romantic and classical works. Favourites like Les Sylphides and Spectre de la Rose will be included in the nine different ballets they will perform.

"I don't understand what the Learned Magistrate ruled on all," she said.

On her conviction, Rita Young was fined \$750 and bound over for two years in the sum of \$1,500.

Before Mr Justice Scholes this morning the said there had been no evidence to support the charge of which she had been convicted.

"I don't understand what the Learned Magistrate ruled on all," she said.

The performances will be given at the Kino's Theatre. Music will be provided by two grand pianos.

Car Stolen

A private car was stolen from Moy I Road between 9 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. yesterday.